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RIVER SHIP FIRE ENQUIRY

European Officers' Evidence At Marine Court

BIG CHEQUE FORGERY

By forging the signature of the well-known firm of solicitors, Messrs. Lo & Lo, two Chinese got away with \$50,000 last month by presenting a cheque for payment at a local foreign bank. It was learned yesterday.

The men, allegedly, first managed to secure a cheque-book, purportedly on behalf of Messrs. Lo & Lo, later they presented the forged cheque. No arrests have yet been made.

Prize Was Free Trip To Soviet

Montreal, Feb. 13. The police today reported the international sale of lottery tickets to support Italian Communists in the spring elections after the seizure of ten books of tickets in a raid on a private house.

The top lottery prize was the choice of a 30 day trip to Moscow, New York, London or Paris.

Tickets for 100 and 500 lire, selling in Canada for 25 cents and \$1.00, were counter-signed by Palmira Tognatti, leader of Italian Communists.

No arrests were made.

A high Government official said: "These tickets must be regarded as further proof of the existence of a close link between Communists in Canada and those in other countries."

The police said the tickets were being sold to build up Italian Communist Party funds for the forthcoming effort to overthrow the Government in Italy in the spring elections. The deadline for ticket sales was May 1.

At the top of each ticket was printed the Hammer and Sickle over the Italian flag.

Other prizes included excursions to the Isle of Capri and the historic site of ancient Pompeii.—United Press.

Manila Share Market Break

Manila, Feb. 13. Mining shares declined slightly in today's Manila stock exchange but brokers said that barring another sharp fall in New York, early recovery of some losses which had taken place since last week, was to be expected.

In the late afternoon session, more buyers than sellers appeared, evidently shopping for bargains. Industrials and sugars showed a wide disparity between bid and asked prices with no sales registered.

Brokers characterised the New York break's effect on Manila as "largely psychological".—Associated Press.

YANGTSE RIVER BAN TO STAY

Shanghai, Feb. 13. The spokesman of the National Shipping Guild today reiterated that foreign shipping will remain banned from China's inland waters.

He was replying to rumours that United States aid to China would be connected with a demand for the "unfreezing" of this country's inland waterways to foreign vessels.

Branding the rumours as "groundless", the spokesman said that the United States can surely understand China's protective measure in view of her own practice not to allow foreign shipping to proceed along her inland waterway.

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"Hsin Kong So" Gutting

An attempt to probe the cause of the fire which gutted the 1,100 ton Hong Kong-Macao river steamer "Hsin Kong So" off Lantau Island on the morning of Feb. 6 was made yesterday, when a Court of Enquiry was held at the Marine Court.

The Court was comprised of Mr. W. A. Blair-Kerr (President) and Lieut. F. E. Neville-Towl (DSC, RN, and Mr. W. Bell (members).

Mr. C. Y. Kwan held a watchman's brief for the Tai On Cheong S.S. Co. Ltd., purchaser of the vessel, which belongs to Wheelock Morden Co. Ltd.

Mr. W. Pittendrigh, ASP, in charge of the Police, and Mr. T. E. Jackson, Assistant Director of Marine (Ship Survey) watched the proceedings for the Ship Survey Department.

The first witness was the master of the ship, Captain Frank Raymond Wood (47) who was in the box for over two hours. He said he came to Hong Kong in May last year and took over command of his ship in June.

He had held a master's certificate since 1930 and had served in various theatres, but had no previous experience of the China Coast.

Firecrackers

The "Hsin Kong So" was a twin screw oil burning cargo and passenger ship of 556 tons net and 1037 tons gross; and since Nov. 12, 1947, had been diverted from the Canton to the Macao run.

Her normal complement of crew was 59, but this number was evidently superfluous, and at the time of the fire it was reduced to 44.

The "Hsin Kong So" left Macao at 3 a.m. on the morning of Feb. 6, and, after waiting for the tide, actually weighed anchor at 4.30 a.m., with 140 passengers and 80 tons cargo, consisting of cassia, joss sticks, firecrackers, Chinese medicine &c., and 10 head of live water buffalo.

All the cargo, with the exception of the firecrackers and the buffaloes which were on the lower deck, was stowed in the upper hold.

The first intimation he had of the fire was at 6.10 a.m., when he was having a cup of tea in his cabin. Hearing a commotion he went outside where the fitter, Mak Kam-chun, told him the stokehold was afire. From the engine-room skylight he saw the 2nd Engineer, Alfred Tse, and several others in the engine room playing fire extinguishers on the fire. From his position he could not see the actual seat of the fire, but the fire extinguishers were being played forward.

He tried to get down to the engine room to see things for himself, but owing to the crowd could not do so, and gave up the attempt.

By this time two fire hoses were being played down the

stokehold from the top upper deck.

At 6.30 a.m., after consultation with the Chief Engineer, Mr. John Henry Kelly, he decided to beach the vessel. They were then about a quarter of a mile from Lantau Island, the ship having been travelling at 10 knots.

The whole stoke hold was then afire and burning fiercely.

At 7 a.m. the ship was beached. Some ten minutes before that he had given order for the life boats to be got ready.

At 7.30 a.m. the fire in the stokehold was extinguished.

Shortly afterwards smoke was observed to be coming through the hatch from No. 1 hold, and two fire hoses were then trained on this hold. However, pressure on the hose gradually diminished, and by 9.20 a.m. the pumps failed.

During this time disembarkation of passengers had been going on by means of the ship's two life boats and also by sampans which came to the rescue.

The 10 head of water buffalo were driven into the sea over the side of the ship and escaped to land.

At 9.30 a.m. it was decided to abandon ship, and the officers and crew left her.

No Panic

There was no panic whatever on board, and all passengers baggage was intact.

The "Merry Moller" was the first ship that came to her rescue at 11 a.m., followed by the "Wing Hing" but as they were unable to do anything, they proceeded on their way to Macao.

The "Kwong Sai" then came, and she took some of the passengers back to Hong Kong.

The remaining passengers were brought back by a Police launch.

Captain Wood was questioned by the Court in detail as to the ship's fire fighting equipment and their disposition, which he indicated on a map.

The ship carried six fire hoses (three of which were used) 13 foam extinguishers (10 of which were in use), and two portable water pumps.

Captain Wood could form no idea how the fire started, and he could not say whether the bulkhead separating the stokehold from No 1 hold was at any time hot or not.

The firecrackers carried on the 'twain deck could not have been the cause of the fire's spread, as the fire did not get to the firecrackers till 10.30 a.m.

Crew Dismissed

At the time of abandoning ship at 9.30 a.m. the fire was confined to No. 1 hold on the starboard side.

It was then blowing a light north-easterly wind.

Captain Wood said the old engine-room crew was dismissed on 24-hours notice, and a new crew signed on the morning of Feb. 6, a day before the fire. He could give no reason for the change; the old crew, he said, had given satisfaction.

(Continued on Page 4)

FIRE TRAGEDY

New York, Feb. 13. Flames trapped 25 persons in a two-storey house today.

Three hours later 11 were still missing, according to the local fire chief. Buildings and walls collapsed before most of the residents on the second floor could escape, firemen said.

Seven others escaped, including three members of one family, who jumped from the second floor after suffering severe burns.—Associated Press.

SURPRISE MOVE IN GERMANY

Berlin, Feb. 13. Marshal Sokolovsky today created a new economic commission for Eastern Germany with even broader powers than Western Germany's economic Bizonia and made it directly responsible for delivering reparations to Russia.

The unexpected order set up a commission with legislative power concentrated in one house. The Soviet military administration itself will appoint the commission members whose functions will give it overriding authority in the zone.

Marshal Sokolovsky laid responsibility over to the Soviet-sponsored trade unions, political parties, farmers' unions and office holders but his order No. 32 specifically kept the new commission's actions under the direct supervision of the Russian occupation authorities.

The Russian zone commission will be made up of a chairman, two deputy chairmen and an unspecified number of members who will include three from the Soviet-sponsored "Free German Trade Unions," two from the "Farmers' Mutual Aid" organization agencies. In addition there will be representatives from states in the zone of Thuringia-Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Brandenburg and Mecklenburg.

Thus every group in the zone with political power is integrated into the commission.—United Press.

Red Army Massing In Manchuria?

Shanghai, Feb. 13. About 100,000 Soviet troops are concentrated in the Soviet-controlled Chinese ports of Dairen and Port Arthur, according to a report appearing in today's Shun Pao, one of the largest Chinese dailies here.

Quoting informed circles in Mukden, the report said that defence measures in Port Arthur had been greatly strengthened recently with heavy guns installed at the entrance to the port and a six-foot wide trench line, interspersed with a small pillbox every 300 yards, constructed along the coast.

Disarming Of Japan

Washington, Feb. 13. The 11-nation Far Eastern Advisory Council has ordered the early completion of Japanese disarmament.

This directive would be binding on General Douglas MacArthur, Allied Supreme Commander in Japan, members of the Council said.

The Council approved in general the steps General MacArthur had already taken in disarming the Japanese forces and destroying fortifications.

M. Alexander Panyugkin, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, obtained from voting after several amendments for which he had fought vigorously were defeated or withdrawn. He thus refrained from yielding his power of veto. One of the defeated Soviet amendments provided that the Japanese police should be permitted only pistols and rifles. Opponents of the amendment contended that more effective weapons were needed to curb Communism or other disorders.—Reuter.

On the Honan battlefield, at least two of Communist General Chen Yi's five divisions moving towards Shantung are said to have already crossed into that province and reached the area between Chengwu and Taohsien. Both these cities are situated in the south-western tip of Shantung. His other three divisions are still battling in the Manchuan sector.—Reuter.

Huge Ammo Haul From S'cutters

Two hundred and forty-one cases of ammunition, containing 86,760 revolver bullets, have been stolen from Army stores on Stonecutters' Island, according to yesterday's Sing Tao Jih Pao.

The newspaper said that the theft occurred during the four days and nights between Monday and Thursday. The ammunition, valued at \$16,000, weighed 13 tons, added the Sing Tao Jih Pao.

Yugo-Slavia Thinks Matter Over

Washington, Feb. 12. Yugoslavia has declared her readiness to resume negotiations on her demands for \$60,000,000 worth of gold frozen in the United States and on American grounds for compensation for property and other claims against the Yugoslav Government, the State Department said today.

The negotiations were broken off several months ago. The dispute, which Yugoslavia only recently threatened to take to the United Nations, has been a major point of contention between the two nations since the end of the war.

A new Yugoslav note delivered by M. Sava Kasanovic, the Yugoslav Ambassador, indicated willingness to resume the negotiations on a bilateral basis and named two lawyers who would be empowered to attempt to reach a settlement.

On the American side, the dispute involves American demands for two planes shot down over Yugoslavia about 18 months ago and for American-owned properties taken over by the Yugoslav State.

The State Department has insisted that the Yugoslav gold cannot be unfrozen until the American claims are settled.

Originally, the United States put its claims at \$42,300,000. This was subsequently scaled down to \$20,000,000, but the Yugoslav insisted that this was still \$15,000,000 too high.

The Yugoslav note, while making no definite counter proposals, indicated, in the opinion of diplomats here, that Yugoslavia was now prepared to adopt a more conciliatory basis.—Reuter.

DRASTIC MOVE IN SHANGHAI

Nanking, Feb. 13. The Ministry of Economic Affairs today imposed drastic restrictions against hoarding as a prelude to a general rationing system scheduled to commence on March 1 in China's large cities.

The regulations provide that homes shall have no more than one to three months' supply and shops and warehouses no more than one-fifth to one-third of annual sales of these essentials: grains, edible salt, sugar, edible oils, cotton yarns, cloth, coal, coke and charcoal.—Associated Press.

The report, which hitherto lacks confirmation from any other source, gives no reason for the alleged Soviet preparations.

In the battle for Manchuria, Nationalist troops defending the approaches to Chingchow today crushed the immediate Communist threat to this key city, 130 miles south-west of Mukden, by unleashing a vigorous counter-drive which drove the Reds all the way back to Kowpangtae. This railway junction, situated 60 miles north-east of Chingchow, is at present the scene of feverish activity as the routed Communist columns prepare to regroup for another push.

Tung Oil Position

Nanking, Feb. 13. The spokesman of the Economic Ministry, replying to criticism from American businessmen, said today that China has no intention of dumping tung oil into the United States market, but on the contrary wishes for a higher price in the international market.

The spokesman's statement was made in reply to American businessmen's criticism that China was selling tung oil in the United States far below cost.

The spokesman admitted that export proceeds converted into Chinese dollars sometimes do not cover costs but claimed this was a "temporary abnormal phenomenon." He said further that China as the main tung oil exporter faces no keen competition from other countries.—United Press.

GOA REPORTS DENIED

Lisbon, Feb. 13. Portuguese officials declared today that the future of Portuguese India was not being discussed with any foreign country.

The statement follows reports that Pandit Nehru, Indian Premier, had said that talks were going on in London between the Portuguese Ambassador and the Indian High Commissioner, Mr. Krishna Menon.—Reuter.

Japan Recovery Plan: Nanking Changes Its Mind

Nanking, Feb. 13. The Chinese Government went on record today as favouring the Marshall Plan for Europe and the United States recovery programme for Japan.

The Foreign Minister, Mr. Wang Shih-chieh, declared that China was ready to support any measure of recovery not only for the war devastated areas of the Allied nations but also for former enemy countries "provided there are definite safeguards against their military resurgence."

Speaking before the Resident Committee of the People's Political Council, Mr. Wang said, "Hitherto, China has hoped and worked for an early peace in order to achieve world recovery as speedily as possible."

However, after the repeated inability of the Council of Foreign Ministers to act in agreement, the prospect for an early peace either for Germany or Japan appears dimmed. While there should be no abandonment of hope for bringing about peace settlements in Europe and the Far East it would be idle to take the position that recovery must wait for peace.

CHINA AID PROGRAMME

Nanking, Feb. 13. The United States Embassy announced today that it had been officially notified by the State Department that the US\$18,000,000 stop-gap aid to China would be programmed as follows:

US\$15,200,000 for wheat and rice; US\$1,000,000 for medical supplies and US\$300,000 for pesticides and seeds for food crops.—United Press.

Strike Fever In Belgium

Brussels, Feb. 13. One hundred thousand coal miners are on strike today as Government tried to decide whether to mobilise the miners and mines in its drive to smash the wave of strike that has overtaken Belgium, labour officials said today.

Government and the labour unions are holding last-minute talks and if a compromise solution is not found before tomorrow, the entire Belgium Coal industry may be included in the same Government move which mobilised three public utilities last night, Government sources said.

The nation's electricity production was reduced one-third today but most power plants are abiding by the Government decree mobilising utilities.

The Interbrabant Power Plant which supplies the greater part of Brussels with electricity, is running with a skeleton crew.—United Press.

China Slashes The Import Quotas

Nanking, Feb. 13. The National Economic Council, after a lengthy debate, fixed import quotas for the fifth and sixth quarters (equivalent to the first and second quarters of this year) at US\$74,720,000—a reduction of 30 per cent, compared with the last quarter—it was officially revealed today.

Under the new quotas imports of cotton, fertilizers, coal, rice, wheat and flour are not specified and will be determined on the basis of actual needs as they arise while imports of machinery are entirely abolished. Diesel oil is allotted US\$18,000,000 which is the same as for the last quarter but represents the largest quota in the new allocations.

Quotas for gasoline covering both quarters are fixed at US\$5,000,000 and will be allocated mainly to public utilities to meet industrial needs. Tobacco has been allotted US\$8,000,000 while the quota for metals has been raised from US\$4,500,000 for the last quarter to US\$7,000,000 for the fifth and sixth quarters. The quota for medicines is only US\$4,000,000 as against US\$6,000,000 the last time.

Imports of automobiles, including foreign diplomatic cars, will be limited to 500 for the two quarters and trucks to about 200.

Under the new quotas it is specified that all educational supplies and scientific apparatus restricted under the present import regulations may be imported to the maximum of \$500,000 each.

In explaining the reduced import quotas for the current quarter it was stated that the curtail-

The Weather

General situation—An anti-cyclone centred near the Pacific is moving east. A shallow depression covers Bhutan and from it a gush extends across south-east China to a deepening depression centred between Kowshu and the mouth of the Yangtze. Pressure rises are slight over the China sea.

Forecast—Moderate south-easterly winds, mainly cloudy; some fair periods during the afternoon. Heavy.

Yesterday's Weather—

Maximum: 76.4 deg. F.

Minimum: 60.8 deg. F.

Sunshine: 8.5 hours.

Rainfall: Nil. Total since Jan. 1—21.5 mm.—1.7 in. as against an average of 52.5 mm.—2.0 in.

Readings at 10 a.m. 4 p.m.

Daro, at max.: 101.61 101.60 m.b.

Humidity: 80 70

Dir. Wind: 00 00

Wind Force: 00 00

Wind Direction: 00 00

Wind Force: 00 00



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RIP KIRBY



THE PRICE OF WOOL

Charges Against Shops Withdrawn

Six wool summonses, adjourned last week to yesterday pending further inquiry by the S.T. & I., were withdrawn when 13 alleged profiteers appeared at Central Magistracy before Mr. F. X. d'Almada.

The adjournment resulted from a claim that permission was given by the authorised wholesaler to sell at the maximum price of \$22 a pound.

Pointing out that dealers authorised by the S.T. & I. to sell at such a price could not give permission to other retailers to do likewise, Mr. d'Almada warned that when any such permission is given by such dealers, it must be referred to the S.T. & I.

At present, only four firms are known to have been permitted to sell at this price.

Heavy Fines

Heavy fines were imposed on profiteers in other cases.

Appearing a second time, Hui Yuk chun, of Wing Fat Grocery Shop, 54 Queen's Road East, was fined \$250 for selling a 40-watt G. E. fluorescent lamp at \$0.00 (50 cents).

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Tung Yue Foon, of New Moon Electric Shop, 77 Electric Road, Causeway Bay, was fined \$150 for selling a 40-watt G. E. fluorescent lamp at \$0.00 (50 cents).

Lau Chi Cheong, of Mow Loong Grocery Shop, 21 Elgin Street, was fined \$100 for selling a catty of imported flour at 80 cents (44 cents).

Chocolates

Li Kach-foi, of 151 Queen's Road West, was fined \$100 for selling a cake of Palmolive soap at \$1.00 (70 cents).

Li Yick-ram, of Kwah Tai, 358 Lockhart Road, was fined \$100 for selling a 1/2 lb. tin of Cadbury's Milk Tray Assortment at \$3.50 (\$3.10).

Chu Pak, of Kwong Fook Rice Shop, 7 Tin Lok Lane, was fined \$75 for selling a 40-watt G. E. fluorescent lamp at \$7.00 (\$6.30).

Chun Wai, of Tung Sam Bakery, 122 Queen's Road East, was fined \$75 for selling a 2-pound tin of margarine at \$4.50 (3.00).

Ng Bill, of Kow Tung Electric Shop, 8 East Street, was fined \$50 for selling a 40-watt G. E. fluorescent lamp at \$0.50 (\$0.30).

Cigarettes

Mak Kuan-chun, of Woo Ping, 314 Queen's Road West, was fined \$50 for selling a 40-watt G. E. fluorescent lamp at \$0.50 (\$0.30).

Yuen Choi, of Wing Kee Fruit Stall, 5 Bird Street, was fined \$30 for selling two apples at 80 cents (30 cents each).

Hui Sin, of Wai Tong Kee, 253, Hollywood Road Central, was fined \$10 for selling a packet of "A" at 50 cents (40 cents).

FOOD PARCELS FUND

The following is a list of the donations received up to 12th February, 1948 which have not yet been acknowledged in the press: M. D. \$20, I. S. \$20, Donations received from the Members of The Chinese Manufacturers Union:—The Hong Kong Manufacturers' Association Yarn Finance and Distribution Organisation \$500, Fung Keong Rubber Manufacturing Ltd. \$200, Kow Yue Weaving Factory \$100, National Lacquers & Paint Products Co. \$100, Chung Nam Weaving Factory \$100, Sam Kwong Weaving \$100, Ng Yee Hing Weaving Factory \$100, Chy Loong Ginger Works \$100, Tien Chu Ve-Tan Mfg. Co. Ltd. \$100, China Brother Hat Manufacturing Co. \$100, Tai Wah Weaving Factory \$100, Kow Kong Weaving Factory \$100, Lee Wah Weaving Factory \$100, Lee Kee Weaving Factory \$100, Lai Shing Weaving Factory \$100, Yick Tai & Co. \$100, Yuen Hing Weaving & Dyeing Factory \$100, Whinnig Trade Co. \$100, Ling Nam Weaving Factory \$100, Tai Shing Weaving Factory \$100, Lee Man Rubber Factory \$100, Chung Kwong Weaving Factory \$100, Man Yuen Weaving Mill \$100, Wing Seng Weaving Factory \$100, The New Asiatic Chemical Works Ltd. \$100, Golden Dragon Metal Mfg. \$100, Dah Chung Industrial Co. Ltd. \$100, Mayer Silk Mills Ltd. \$100, I-Feng Enamel Co. Ltd. \$100, Majestic Chemical Works Ltd. \$100, Nam Jam Factory \$100, The World Light Factory \$100, Hong Kong Nail Factory Ltd. \$50, Wah Lun Silk Weaving Factory \$50, Wing Fat Printing Co. Ltd. \$50, M. P. San & Co. Ltd. \$50, Chow Ngal Hing Knitting Factory \$50, Yue Kwong Weaving Factory \$50, Tai Shing Dyeing & Weaving Works \$50, Sam Fong Face Powder Factory \$50, Cheung Wing Wo Sarong Weaving & Dyeing Mills \$50, Man Cheong Weaving Factory \$50, Tung Wah Weaving Factory \$50, Kin Kwok Rubber Factory \$50, The Orient Glass Industry Ltd. \$50, Kin Sun Printing Press \$50, The Sincere Co. (Perfumery Manufacturers) Ltd. \$20, The Baldly Co. Ltd. Perfumery Factory \$20, Lin Son Aluminium & Hardware Factory \$20, Leung Yau Weaving Factory \$20, A. Sek & Co. \$20, Mr. M. T. Case \$6, \$4,646. Already acknowledged \$33,118.59, total \$37,764.59. Donations may be sent to the Hon. Treasurers Messrs. Pent, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., Exchange Building.

R.A.S.C. W.O. Cautioned

A caution was registered yesterday in the case of Sgt. Mjr. G.M.S. Deane of 983 Coy., R.A.S.C., when he pleaded "guilty" to a summons for failing to report an accident within reasonable time. He appeared Mr. J. G. Conklin at the Central Magistracy.

Defendant was driving in Hennessey Road in a military jeep when he had a slight collision with a public vehicle. There was very little damage to either car. The accident, which occurred on December 25, 1947, was not reported until Dec. 29, when defendant reported the matter to his Commanding Officer.

Deane said that his wife was in the jeep with him, was very upset because of the accident and was not well for three days after wards. He was so worried about his wife, that he did not report the matter until the 29th.

Church Meeting

The second Annual Meeting of St. Andrew's Church since the Liberation, was held last night at Church Hall, Kowloon.

Reports of the various activities of the Church were made and the following elections were made:—Church Council: Mrs. S. Braga, Mrs. E. Walters, Mrs. N. Heywood, Mrs. Wakefield, Mrs. W. Penny, Mr. H.T. Chang, Mr. Roger Woo, Mr. E. Jones, Col. Beattie, Mr. W.C. Law, Mr. Sydney Howell, Mr. G. Labrum, Mr. H. Giffin, Mr. G.S.P. Heywood, Mr. S. Langston, Mr. A.C. Tribble, Mr. F.V. Wong and Mr. A.L. Brown. People's Warden: Mr. A.L. Brown. Representatives to the Church of England Board of Trustees: Mr. G. Labrum and Mr. H.T. Chang. Representatives to the Diocesan Conference: Mrs. W. Penny, Mrs. N. Braga, Mrs. E. Walters and Mr. E.L. Brown.

Auditor: T.A. Martin & Co. In his report, the Chairman, the Rev. J. Ogilvie (Vicar of St. Andrew's) praised "the remarkable attendance of members throughout the year, taking it as 'a most encouraging sign'."

He also commented on the activity of the women's Guild under Mrs. Heywood, who is leaving Hong Kong soon and will be succeeded by Mrs. F. Wakefield, the Young People's Fellowship and Bible Reading Fellowship, which did very well under the leadership of Mr. H. Braga.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Heywood, detailed the progress of the Church Restoration programme which started in March, 1947, in his report, in which he stressed the great need for more funds.

A "Very Bad Boy" Sentenced

"He is a very bad boy who is always molesting me for money. I would like the law to take its course, even if it means sending him to prison," said Pang Ching-po, retired merchant, to Mr. W. H. Latimer at Kowloon yesterday when his 26-year-old son, Pang Wing-chung, was convicted on a charge of assault.

Defendant, was sentenced to two months' hard labour.

It was alleged by the prosecution, conducted by Sub-Inspector J. S. Howarth, that at 7 p.m. on Feb. 2 defendant returned to his father's house at 22 Argyle Street, first floor, and asked his mother for \$22 to pay a mah-jong debt.

When his mother refused, defendant approached the father, who also refused, and a quarrel ensued.

In a fit of temper, accused picked up a stick and, sitting a scraper, threatened his father.

Police whistles were blown and a neighbour sent for the Police. Constable 1084 went to the house and saw defendant raise the stick as if about to strike the old man.

Young Pang threatened to throw himself from the verandah.

BY ALEX RAYMOND

Twenty bucks! I'll need at least fifty to get that trunk out of that old harridan's rooming house! Dolly Malone, you need a friend! I know! Pagan Lee!

Three Steps To Democracy

"The inability to appreciate another's point of view is the hall-mark of a closed mind, unenlightened by a liberal education and ignorant of the fundamental principles of behaviourism."

"From intolerance has arisen all that is ugly in the history of mankind—the miseries of war, hunger and starvation. To give a meaning to life is to be tolerant; to understand all is to forgive all."

The above, according to Capt. Luff of the Royal Army Education Corp., formed the backbone to the third step towards democracy.

Capt. Luff was the guest-speaker at the weekly luncheon-meeting of the Kowloon Rotary Club held at the Peninsula Hotel, under the Presidency of Mr. F. C. Clemons, yesterday.

Speaking on "Three Steps to Democracy," Capt. Luff said, in part:

"The years in which we live comprise, perhaps, the most vital age in the history of mankind. Man, by bringing a perverted mind to the discoveries of science, has wilfully and deliberately brought himself to a new age where the Utopian-like dreams of the idealist are, at any rate, somewhere near realisation."

Three Steps

The speaker said that he believed that despite all talks of war being imminent and, conversely, of war being out of the question the fact remain that there were today all the elements which make towards a war of colossal proportions as well as all the elements to help to realise the highest aspirations of men of goodwill.

The three steps to democracy are, said Capt. Luff, (a) an educated electorate, (b) a minimum standard of living, and (c) tolerance.

Touching on the first, the speaker declared that education is something much larger than the rudiments of education as conceived by the ordinary educationalist, and something more comprehensive than that which exists in the institutions of the most enlightened countries.

"In other words," said Capt. Luff, "education is citizenship, free from the bias of any autocracy or the persuasion of an oligarchy or any other combination of self-seeking interests. The machinery for such a scheme exists with the United Nations."

Democracy exists to "express the wishes and desires of a free people, not the wishes and desires of power politicians who

project their own ideas into the uninformed mind of the mass. It is evident, then, that a mass, ignorant of the elementary factors that constitute a free mode of life, is clay in the hands of a ruthless potter."

Losing Fight

"All over the world," asserted the speaker, "the fight for free expression of free peoples is being lost. No matter what name replaces another, or what party ousts another, the real victory at the polls is ignorance."

"Through ignorance we have seen whole nations stampeded to destruction; people have been led to kill and destroy; and whole races have believed the most fantastic lies."

"So there exists many evils, main justments, and various causes leading to misery, but the greatest of all these is ignorance."

As to a minimum standard of living, Capt. Luff said that when people are broken on the wheels of hardship desperation arrives and with it the opportunist.

He is the man who preaches the most when hunger, sickness and desperation have driven the people to the stage where they are prepared to do anything, even to complying with his term.

"If I am to lead you, first surrender, all your powers to me." "The result we know," said Capt. Luff, "for one by one the lamps of humanity are burning dimmer and dimmer. How shall they grow brighter? By attending to their needs. Who is the good neighbour? He who will bind up the wounds of the sick, will feed the poor, will house the homeless."

Speaking of intolerance, Capt. Luff referred to the prosecutions of Socrates, Jesus and His disciples, and the religious prosecutions of today.

NEW YEAR ACCIDENTS

Over the Chinese New Year Holiday period, only four serious traffic accidents occurred in Hong Kong. There were 14 collisions where only slight or no injury was caused.

The four serious accidents were all on Feb. 10 and a bus, a tram and a hire-car were involved, all in Bay View or Wanchai area.

People hurt were Lo Kwan, 22 year old woman, Yip Yan, 32, and Ma Kan, 16, who were seriously injured. Yesterday their condition was reported to be satisfactory.

GAMBLING RAID

The Poor Box was enriched by another \$341.45 yesterday when Mr. W. H. Latimer ordered that sum, seized by Det. Sub-Inspector C. Dowman during a raid at 215 Kilung Street, second floor, to be confiscated.

The premises, raided at 4.30 p.m. on Feb. 12, were used for gambling, said Sub-Inspector J. S. Howarth when Cheung Ng (40) and Chan Ying (33) charged with keeping a common gambling house, were fined \$150 each. Twenty gamblers were fined \$20 each.

FOOD PARCELS TO BRITAIN

EASTER EGGS.

IMPORTANT!

CUSTOMERS WISHING TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SPECIAL AIR FREIGHT ARRANGEMENTS MADE IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE SCHEME, ARE REMINDED THAT TODAY IS THE LAST DAY FOR PLACING ORDERS FOR PARCELS TO BE DISPATCHED FEBRUARY 21ST.

PLACE YOUR ORDERS NOW,
LANE, CRAWFORD, LTD.

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HONGKONG TEL. 21151

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QUALITY FINE OLD BROWN BRANDY
Bottled in Cordon and guaranteed 35 years
old. The proper choice for the connoisseur
quality, bouquet and character.

Brown Brandy
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Specially selected for
A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS
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"COME TO US FOR ADVICE"
ALL TYPES INDUSTRIAL & DOMESTIC PROPERTIES
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20 WORDS \$2 FOR ONE
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PER EACH ADDITIONAL
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WORDS 10 CTS. PER WORD
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Replies are awaiting at our
offices for Box Nos. 308, 310,
319, 345, 346, 347, 348.

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JACQUAR The PRESTIGE of
a name. The ART of dis-
tinction. The QUALITY of fine
woolens. The GUARANTEE of ex-
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QUAR. BOND STREET W. L.
34-36, and accessories of
distinction. Suite 302 Hong
Kong Hotel. Telephone 30281.
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**HARRIS TAYLOR GENUINE
HANDWOVEN** We have now
received new additional lengths
of handwoven fabrics and designs,
available for those about to
visit BOND STREET W. L.
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FANTASIA The most ex-
clusive English knitwear and
underwear. John Rota
Bonds, Manon, Elizabeth,
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Gail, and others. Shipowners,
Doctors, Teachers and Cadets.
For information, write to
Mr. M. L. THOMAS and Mr.
E. C. THOMAS, B.Sc., F.R.G.S.,
ROYDEN HOUSE, Kowloon
Tong.

"CARTERS" 3rd Comaught
Road, 1st floor, next to
Hong Kong Club on Waterfront,
presents: Cuffs & Wireless
Oranges, Dress-making, Mat-
ernity Dress, Children Smocks,
toys, etc. Chinese Chair
Cover, Bedspreads, Etc. made.

MOSDA automatic lighter is
now obtainable at all stores.
Inventor: Henry Paul
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**ON THE 1st floor, Kowloon
Building is THE CHINA
RUGS CO.** selling genuine Pe-
king and Tientsin Rugs. Jewels
designed, various sizes, Come
and inspect.

**FOR YOUR BREAKFAST,
Tea, Afternoon Tea & Dinner.**
You are welcome. Prompt Ser-
vice. Airy and Quiet. Try
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Mezzanine Floor. Tel. 26428.

POSITIONS WANTED

ADVERTISER shortly leaving
Colony, is offering lady house-
keeper, cook, maid, and also house-
keeper. Phone 57687, evenings.

DANCING LESSONS

**BALLROOM DANCING
CLASSES** Starting Again!
"FREE OFFER" to Ladies!
Private Lessons by Appoint-
ment. Enquiries: (2-4 P.M.)
TONY HUDSON, 512, China
Building.

FOR SALE

AVAILABLE March 1st owner
leaving Colony. Ford 10 HP
1947 excellent condition mileage
5000. HK\$5550. L. Col. Moxley
HQ Land Forces. Licensed and
insured until Sept. 1948.

FOR SALE 1947 Austin 8 in
good condition mileage run ap-
proximately 10,000 miles.
Owner going home. Reply Box
357 "China Mail."

**UNDERWOOD LATEST
MODEL** just arrived. Lowest
price. Also Typewriters for rent.
Service guaranteed. Tel. 27682.
Universal Typewriter Co., 22
Des Voeux Road, C. 1st. floor.

CHINA FLEET CLUB

Appointment of a
Night Superintendent

A vacancy exists for the
appointment of a Night Super-
intendent at the China Fleet
Club. The duration of the
appointment will be for three
years. The person appointed
will be required to be on duty
from midnight to 9.00 a.m.
daily. The salary offered is
\$700-\$800 monthly with food
and single quarters provided.

Applications in writing will
be received by the Manager,
China Fleet Club up to 20th
February, 1948, from whom
further information of the
appointment can be obtained.

WM. J. WAGHORN,
Manager.

PUBLIC AUCTION

BY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR OF DISPOSALS FAR
EASTERN AREA (M. O. S.) Messrs. Lammert Brothers
of Pedder Building, Hong Kong, have received instructions to
sell by Auction at their Sales Rooms, Pedder Building, Bas-
ement, at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, the 18th. February, 1948:—

36 FEET HARBOUR LAUNCHES
15 CWT & 3 TON LORRIES & TRUCKS
MOTOR CYCLES
PETROL ELECTRIC GENERATING SETS

Also

SCRAP FERROUS & NON-FERROUS METAL. AIR-
CRAFT ENGINES, JEEPS, MOTOR CYCLES, FUR-
NITURE, CANVAS, COTTONS AND WOOLLENS,
RUBBER, BATTERIES, OILSKIN & WOOD.

Located at various Depots. Full particulars from Catalogue.

Permits to view, Catalogues and Special Condition of Sale etc.,
may be obtainable from Messrs. Lammert Brothers.

Inspection of Launches, Stores, Vehicles etc., at the various
Depots can be made between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and
12.00 noon and between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. on 16th. and
17th. February, 1948.

Terms: 50% of Purchase Money on Fall of Hammer and
Balance by following day.

WALTER M. WEINBERGER

CHAIRMAN,
BRITISH STORES DISPOSAL BOARD,
(HONG KONG).

NOTICE

Plans are being made to open
an INDEPENDENT PRIVATE
SCHOOL for girls and boys, to
be run on the DALTON PLAN.
Priority will be given to
students registering early. For
further information application
should be made immediately in
writing, to the PRINCIPALS
MRS. M. L. THOMAS and Mr.
E. C. THOMAS, B.Sc., F.R.G.S.,
ROYDEN HOUSE, Kowloon
Tong.

U. S. R. C.

The Annual General Meeting
will be held at the Club on
Monday, 16th February, at 6.30
p.m. All members are invited to
attend.

KING'S MUSIC CO.

Pianos by famous makers,
Record Players for J.C./D.C.,
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mophones, musical instruments,
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& Monumental Masons.
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Kowloon—Tel. 56025

THE ANGLO-DUTCH (J A V A) PLANTATIONS, LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the
Companies' Ordinances of
Hong Kong).

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS For the Period

1st Jan. 1941 to 31st Dec. 1946

**NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN** that the Thirty-second
Ordinary General Meeting of
Shareholders adjourned on 23rd
December, 1947 will be resumed
at 6.01/606 Marina House,
Hongkong, on Monday the
eighth day of March, 1948 at
11.30 a.m. for the following
purposes.

1. To receive and consider
the Directors' Report and
Statements of Accounts
for the period 1st Jan-
uary, 1941 to 31st Decem-
ber, 1941, and for the
period 9th December,
1941 to 31st December,
1946.

2. To transact any other
ordinary business of the
Company.

By Order of the Board of
Directors,

J. A. WATTIE & CO., LTD.
Secretaries.

Hongkong, 12th Feb., 1948.

ANGLO-JAVA ESTATES LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the
Companies' Ordinances of
Hong Kong).

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS For the Period

1st Jan. 1941 to 31st Dec. 1946

**NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN** that the Thirty-second
Ordinary General Meeting of
Shareholders adjourned on 23rd
December, 1947 will be resumed
at 6.01/606 Marina House,
Hongkong, on Monday the
eighth day of March, 1948 at
11.45 a.m. for the following
purposes.

1. To receive and consider
the Directors' Report and
Statements of Accounts
for the period 1st Jan-
uary, 1941 to 31st Decem-
ber, 1941, and for the
period 9th December,
1941 to 31st December,
1946.

2. To transact any other
ordinary business of the
Company.

By Order of the Board of
Directors,

J. A. WATTIE & CO., LTD.
Secretaries.

Hongkong, 12th Feb., 1948.

ZIANGBE RUBBER COMPANY, LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the
Companies' Ordinances of
Hong Kong).

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS For the Period

1st Jan. 1941 to 31st Dec. 1946

**NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN** that the Thirty-second
Ordinary General Meeting of
Shareholders adjourned on 23rd
December, 1947 will be resumed
at 6.01/606 Marina House,
Hongkong, on Monday the
eighth day of March, 1948 at
12.30 p.m. for the following
purposes.

1. To receive and consider
the Directors' Report and
Statements of Accounts
for the period 1st Jan-
uary, 1941 to 31st Decem-
ber, 1941, and for the
period 9th December,
1941 to 31st December,
1946.

2. To transact any other
ordinary business of the
Company.

By Order of the Board of
Directors,

J. A. WATTIE & CO., LTD.
Secretaries.

Hongkong, 12th Feb., 1948.

Service Auction Rooms

Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc.
Basement, French Bank Bldg.,
A.E.B. de Souza, Auctioneer
Telephone 51597.

JAVA CONSOLIDATED RUBBER AND COFFEE ESTATES, LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the
Companies' Ordinances of
Hong Kong).

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS For the Period

1st Jan. 1941 to 31st Dec. 1946

**NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN** that the Thirty-second
Ordinary General Meeting of
Shareholders adjourned on 23rd
December, 1947 will be resumed
at 6.01/606 Marina House,
Hongkong, on Monday the
eighth day of March, 1948 at
12 noon for the following
purposes.

1. To receive and consider
the Directors' Report and
Statements of Accounts
for the period 1st Jan-
uary, 1941 to 31st Decem-
ber, 1941, and for the
period 9th December,
1941 to 31st December,
1946.

2. To transact any other
ordinary business of the
Company.

By Order of the Board of
Directors,

J. A. WATTIE & CO., LTD.
Secretaries.

Hongkong, 12th Feb., 1948.

KROEWOEK JAVA PLANTATIONS, LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the
Companies' Ordinances of
Hong Kong).

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND STATEMENTS OF ACCOUNTS For the Period

1st Jan. 1941 to 31st Dec. 1946

**NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN** that the Thirty-second
Ordinary General Meeting of
Shareholders adjourned on 23rd
December, 1947 will be resumed
at 6.01/606 Marina House,
Hongkong, on Monday the
eighth day of March, 1948 at
12.15 p.m. for the follow-
ing purposes.

1. To receive and consider
the Directors' Report and
Statements of Accounts
for the period 1st Jan-
uary, 1941 to 31st Decem-
ber, 1941, and for the
period 9th December,
1941 to 31st December,
1946.

2. To transact any other
ordinary business of the
Company.

By Order of the Board of
Directors,

J. A. WATTIE & CO., LTD.
Secretaries.

Hongkong, 12th Feb., 1948.

IN THE SUPREME COURT HONG KONG

PROBATE JURISDICTION

**IN THE GOODS OF LEE
CHUCK** otherwise known
as LEE CHUNG YUE late
of the City of Vancouver,
Province of British Colum-
bia, deceased.

**NOTICE IS HEREBY
GIVEN** that the Court has by
virtue of Section 68 of the Pro-
bate Ordinance 1897, made an
Order limiting the time for
creditors and others to send in
their claims against the above
estate to the 8th day of March,
1948.

All Creditors and others are
accordingly hereby required to
send their claims to the under-
signed on or before that date.

Dated the 9th day of Febru-
ary, 1948.

WILKINSON & GRIST,
Solicitors for the Executor
named in the Will of the
said deceased.

No. 2 Queen's Road Central,
Hong Kong.

LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors
and Appraisers.
Pedder Building,
Telephone No. 50314.

River Ship Fire Enquiry Rotary's District Conference

(Continued from Page 1)

Asked by Mr. Pittendrigh
why no attempt was made to
ex-light the boiler after the fire
in the stockhold was put out at
7.30 a.m., witness said it was
impossible to get down to the
engine room owing to the dense
smoke.

There was a smoke helmet in
the mess room, said Captain
Wood, but again due to the
dense smoke which had pene-
trated the room, it was not
possible to get at it.

William Anderson, 72, Chief
Officer, said he signed on the
"Hsin Kong So" on Jan. 27,
1948. He had been on the China
Coast since 1902, and had held
a master's certificate since
1909.

He was Chief Officer of the
river steamer "Sai On" at the
time of the disaster fire which
gutted her on Feb. 4, 1947.

Cargo Stowage

He first knew of the fire on
the "Hsin Kong So" at 6.10 a.m.
when the 2nd Engineer report-
ed it to him. He got the Bosun
and some sailors to connect the
two deck hoses, and ordered the
crew to clear the life boats.

He could see the fire from the
fiddley, which was eventually
put out by the two hoses played
on it.

Witness was closely question-
ed by the Court on the fire equip-
ment carried and its disposi-
tion.

He was also questioned on the
cargo carried and its disposi-
tion in the holds. He said he
could not exactly remember its
distribution but he could say
the Chinese wine was stowed on
the port side, and camphorwood
planks, joss sticks and cassia
stowed against the bulkhead.

Some 10 to 15 minutes after
the fire in the stockhold was
extinguished, smoke was seen
coming out from the forward
hatch, and two hoses were
directed on this hold, but the
water pressure gradually dimi-
nished and was unable to tackle
any fire.

When the decision to abandon
ship was taken about 9.30 a.m.,
there was no evidence of fire
except for sparks near the fun-
nel. There was only grey smoke
and gas of a dark grey colour
coming from No. 1 hold.

No Pressure

Asked by the Court as to the
origin of this gas, witness said
he could not say, but it was
probably due to the oil. He had
never been on an oil ship be-
fore.

COMPANIES (RECONSTRUCTION OF RECORDS) ORDINANCE

CHINA CONSTRUCTION CO., LTD.

The above Company has dur-
ing 1941-1945 lost its
Memorandum of Association
and is unable to secure a copy
thereof and it is accordingly
proposed to adopt a new
Memorandum pursuant to the
provisions of Section 9 of the
above-mentioned Ordinance. A
copy of such proposed new
Memorandum may be inspected
at the Company's registered
office, Room 401, Hong Kong &
Shanghai Bank Building, Fourth
Floor, by any member or
creditor of the Company during
usual business hours. If any
person, firm or corporation has
any objections to such proposed
new Memorandum, the nature
of such objections should be
stated briefly in writing and
before the 15th March, 1948,
filed with the Registrar of
Companies, Supreme Court,
Hong Kong, with an address
for service within the Colony
of such person, firm or cor-
poration objecting.

Dated the 13th February, 1948.

JOHNSON, STOKES &
MASTER,

Solicitors for the
abovenamed Company.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES HOLDING

P. & O. S. N. Co.
BILLS OF LADING

Messrs. Goddard & Douglas
will attend at 10 a.m. on Mon-
days and Thursdays within the
free storage period to survey
damaged cargo, and consignees
are requested to have their
representatives present. Unless
consignees representatives are
present at the Survey no claims
can thereafter be admitted.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE
& CO.

Agents:—

P. & O. S. N. Co.
B. I. S. N. Co., Ltd.
E. & A. S. S. Co., Ltd.

"Do you mean to say you
abandoned ship when there was
actually no evidence of fire-only
smoke? Was no attempt made
to put out any possible fire be-
fore abandoning ship?" asked
the President.

Witness replied there was
nothing that could be done, as
steam had run out and there
was no pressure on the fire hose.
The decision to abandon ship,
said witness, came after con-
sultation with the Chief-Engi-
neer who feared there might
be an explosion of the boilers or
oil tanks.

Witness said he did not look
into the stockhold before aban-
doning ship to see if there was
any fire there, as he was satis-
fied it was out. It was impos-
sible to go down to it owing to the
smoke and gas which was very
painful to the eyes.

John Henry Kelly (62), said
he joined the "Hsin Kong So" as
Chief Engineer in August 1947.
He had been chief engineer for
37 years.

Fuel Cut Off

He first became aware of the
fire when the latter, sent up to
him by the 2nd Engineer, told
him "Come quick, fire stock-
hold." Looking through the
fiddley he could see flame on the
port side.

The two hoses poured water
into the stockhold for fully an
hour. Flooding it out, before the
fire was extinguished, and some
of the water ran into the engine
room. The water was boiling,
and so great was the heat that
it was impossible to get down to
the engine room.

As soon as the fire started,
said witness, he shut off all fuel
supply to the furnaces and
pumps. This was a necessary
safety measure as he could not
say whether an oil fuel pipe
had burst or not.

Because of this steam was
diminishing, and what was
available had to be conserved
for the deck pumps.

Asked if he was in the engine
room all the time, witness said
he was at the fiddley directing
fire fighting. It was impos-
sible to get down to the engine
room owing to the dense black smoke
and the intense heat.

After the stockhold fire was
put out, the Chief Officer told
him of a possible fire in No. 1
hold, and two hoses were trained
on it. No fire was seen, only
whitish smoke.

Before abandoning ship at
9.30 a.m. he looked down into
the stockhold and was satisfied
there was no fire there.

Fire's Spread

It was only after they were
ashore that they saw fire com-
ing out from No. 1 hold and the
aft saloon. The fire spread from
fore to aft.

Hearing was adjourned to
10.30 a.m. today.

Singapore Salary Grievances

SHOWING TO-DAY **QUEEN'S** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

"I'll Make Your Heart Beat... In Rhythmic Rhythm"
"CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA"
 IN TECHNICOLOR
 with Dick HAYMES • Vera ELLEN • Cesar ROMERO
 A 20th Century-Fox Picture

TO-MORROW MORNING AT 11.30 A.M.
 Errol FLYNN • Olivia de HAVILLAND
"THE CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE"
 A Warner Bros. Picture • AT REDUCED PRICES!

— NEXT CHANGE —

HE LIVED A HUNDRED TIMES IN ONE!
 But the woman he loved always knew, no matter what the headlines shrieked, that he was safe... and coming back to her!

FRED Mac MURRAY
Captain EDDIE
 LYNN BARD • CHARLES BICKFORD • THOMAS MITCHELL • LLOYD NOLAN • JAMES CLEASON

SHOWING TO-DAY **KING'S** AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

...he sings! ...he dances!
VAN JOHNSON • WILLIAMS • BALL • WYNN
 McGee's "Easy to Wed" TECHNICOLOR

* ALSO LATEST METRO NEWS *

* TO-DAY to MONDAY at 10.30 A.M. and 12.30 P.M.
"LONG LIVE THE WIFE"
 A CHINESE PICTURE with Mandarin DIALOGUE

ORIENTAL
 SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.
 A GAY MUSICAL COMEDY FOR ALL AGES!

M-G-M's BIGGEST, GAYEST TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL!
FIESTA
 ESTHER WILLIAMS

SPECIAL MORNING SHOW: DAILY AT 12.30
 TO-DAY: Laurel & Hardy in "SAPS AT SEA!"

TO-MORROW: "RENEGADE" TECHNICOLOR
 MONDAY: "ONE MILLION B.C."

CENTRAL
 5 Shows Daily at 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
 FIRST EPISODE

FRESH FROM THE PAGES OF YOUR NO. 1 COMIC... CAPTAIN AMERICA NOW IN PICTURES!
CAPTAIN AMERICA
 DICK PURCELL • LIONEL ATWILL • LORNA GRAY

MARSHALL AID CONTROLS

Hints Of Conditions: By Senator Vandenberg

More Explicit Than State Dept.

Washington, Feb. 12. The conditions under which Marshall aid to any of the European countries could be cut off have now been laid down in the proposed legislation being prepared by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Arthur Vandenberg said today.

Senator Vandenberg, who is Chairman of the committee, added: "Nothing has been written which in any way handicaps the fundamental concepts of the European recovery programme because those basic concepts, laid down in Mr. Marshall's speech at Harvard, condition everything we do."

Senator Vandenberg said the termination provisions are much more explicit than those put forward by the State Department.

The principal requirement for continuing aid under the European recovery programme was that the countries "live up to the conditions" set up in the bilateral agreements which will accompany the European recovery programme.

The others are that countries formally pledge all-out efforts to set up a joint recovery programme based on both their own national efforts and mutual cooperation and establish a permanent organization to facilitate this.

Diversion

Senator Vandenberg said that diversion of ERP goods by a recipient nation would also constitute grounds for termination, but declined to amplify this, although he declared it did not pertain to a diversion of goods to colonies.

He said the bilateral agreements accompanying the European recovery programme will also specify, as the interim aid legislation did, that termination will follow automatically once the ERP administration decides that aid to any country is limited to the national interests of the United States.

Several times he said that termination could follow the departure of any country from the multilateral economic conference agreements as well as bilateral United States agreements.

Frozen Sterling

Declaring that the "frozen sterling balances hang like a mill-stone about the neck of British economy" the United States Lower House Select Committee on Foreign Aid today proposed that London call a Commonwealth and sterling bloc nations conference.

The conference would prepare the way for participation of the Commonwealth and sterling nations in the Marshall Plan and would deal particularly with the problem of the convertibility of sterling.

The report of the Committee said that the "key role" of the United Kingdom in the European recovery programme "is severely restricted by convertibility problems," which not even an increase in British exports can remove.

"A conference of non-European nations, such as India, Egypt and the Argentine, which hold frozen sterling balances, and of the other 15 nations of Western Europe, might work out a plan whereby parts of the sterling balances would be cancelled outright and other parts assumed by the nations whom Britain helped to liberate."

It is hoped that the remainder would be a manageable total which could be liquidated over a relatively short period through the anticipated increase in British exports without impairing Britain's ability to import enough for Europe's necessities. —Reuter.

Amazing Saga Of The Sea

Suva, Fiji, Feb. 12. Ronald E. Johnson, 34-year-old seaman, made port today in a converted submarine chaser after an almost unparalleled saga of the sea, in which he was virtually at the mercy of the wind and waves for four and a half months while drifting from a point near Honolulu to the Fiji Islands.

Apparently little the worse for his adventure, Johnson arrived aboard his engineless craft in the tow of the freighter Fort Cadotte, which sighted the drifting vessel on Wednesday.

Johnson said he started his journey on October 9, when he left Honolulu aboard a sub-chaser in the tow of a second sub-chaser. The second day out, the towing gear parted and Johnson refused to abandon his ship because it represented his life savings. The other crew gave him provisions and Johnson said he thought the prevailing winds and currents would take him to the Philippines.

He spent a month rigging a makeshift sail, but control was poor and sometimes he drifted as much as 50 miles daily. He had plenty of fresh water and lived on canned milk and miscellaneous tinned goods, while he also caught some dolphin which he described as poor eating. —United Press.

Support For Partition

Washington, Feb. 12. President Truman declared today that the United States fully supported the United Nations Palestine policy and the plan for partition.

This was all that he would say on the subject at his press conference, declining to discuss reports that there were strong differences of opinion inside his Cabinet on the problems arising out of the partition and the possible need for providing armed forces to support it. —Reuter.

Mufti At Arab Councils

Cairo, Feb. 12. The admission of Haj Amin el-Husseini, the Mufti of Jerusalem, to the meetings of the Arab League Council for the first time foreboded intensified Arab warfare in Palestine in the near future in the view of competent observers here. It confirms previous reports that all Arab leaders, including the Mufti, have decided to stoke their political differences in order to pursue the military objectives in Palestine unhindered. —Reuter.

HOLLAND'S NEED URGENT

The Hague, Feb. 12. Drastic measures to cut imports into Holland will be necessary unless Marshall aid becomes effective soon, M. Pieter Loeffink, Minister of Finance, stated today.

Lord Inverchapel Resigns

London, Feb. 12. Sir Oliver Franks, distinguished for his own work on the Marshall Plan, has been appointed British Ambassador to the United States in succession to Lord Inverchapel, who has retired from the Foreign Service.

Sir Oliver, who is at present Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, was the chief British delegate to the Paris Conference on the Marshall Plan and became Chairman of the European Economic Conference.

Later, he led the British delegation to the European recovery talks in Washington.

During the war, Sir Oliver, who is 42-year-old, joined the Civil Service and became Permanent Secretary of the Ministries of Supplies and Aircraft Production.

Earlier in his career, he was Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Glasgow. —Reuter.

During the first three months of this year, £25,000,000 will be available for purchases in the dollar area but this amount lagged substantially behind the requirements necessary to maintain the present standard of living in the Netherlands. —Reuter.

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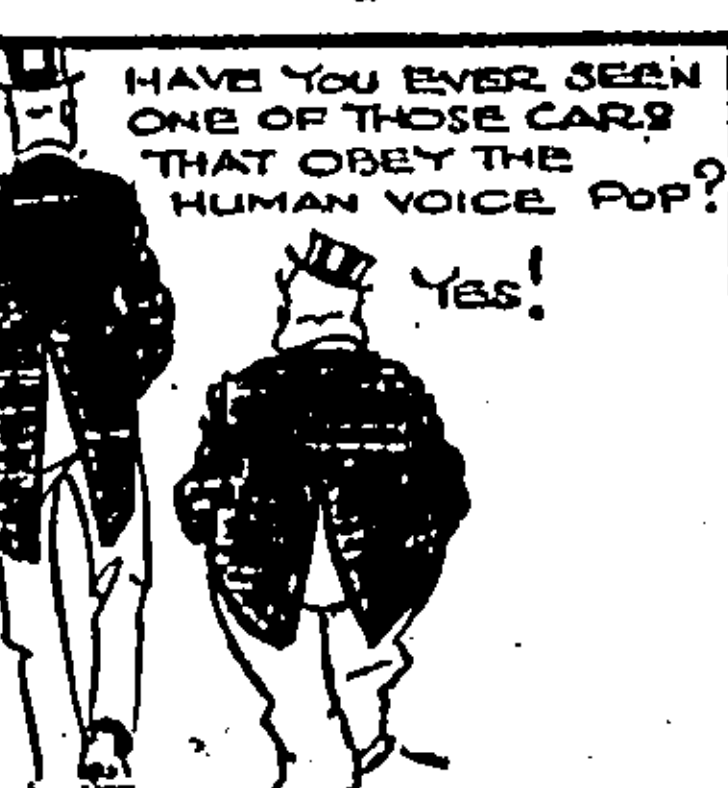
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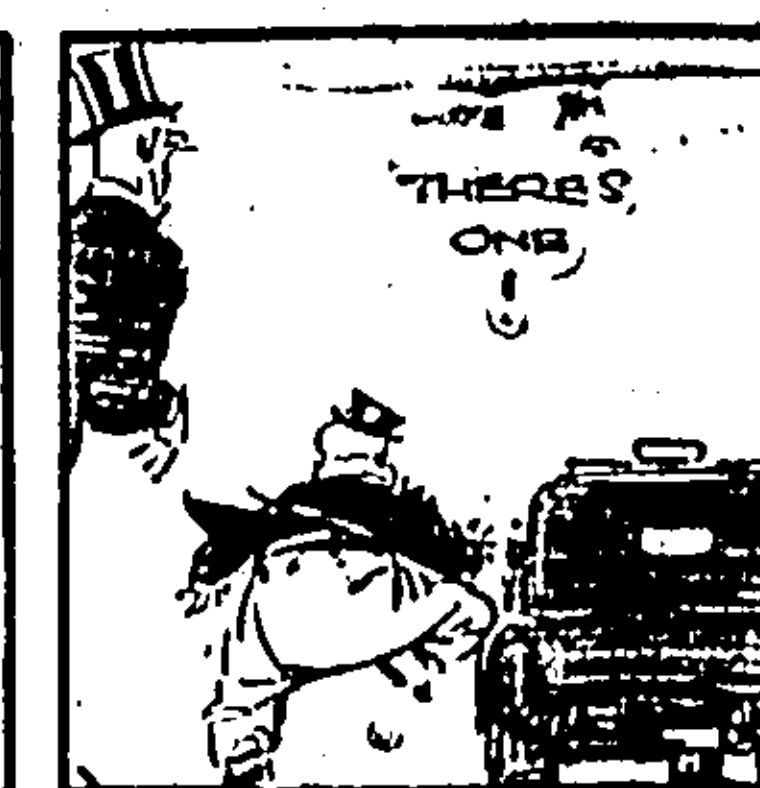
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ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAMME

It says much for the soundness of the anti-inflation policy now being vigorously pursued by Sir Stafford Cripps that while the Opposition lodged a mildly-critical amendment, they allowed the debate to be talked out without forcing a division.

Mr. Anthony Eden was, in fact, almost complimentary in his analysis. Mr. Lytton assured the Chancellor of the Exchequer that an appeal for the freeing of dividends would meet with a surprising response, and the Liberal leaders were enthusiastic.

The fact is, of course, that in this matter, Sir Stafford has been courageous enough to hold the balance between various sections of the community, regardless of political interest, which is the proper function of government at any time, and emphatically so at a time so critical in Britain's economic history.

The Government has not produced a wages policy, but it comes close to it, and by asking the employers of the country to produce their own plan for reducing prices and profits, it takes up very strong ground.

Sir Stafford Cripps relies very confidently on the strength of his argument: that there can be no general increase in wages unless production rises as well, and since there are distinct signs of the end of the seller's market abroad, that can only be accomplished by reducing prices and profits. Employers and employees have both a contribution to make. They will be assisted by the imposition of further controls on the internal price level, without, for the moment, rigid freezing.

Labour Dilemma

In spite of the Bevin Plan, the Labour Party Executive has decided to boycott the Congress of Europe which it is proposed to hold at The Hague from May 7 to 10, inclusive, with the object of co-ordinating and strengthening the movement for European unity initiated by Mr. Churchill. This decision by the National Executive Committee of the party confirms the decision a year ago that members of the party should withhold support from Mr. Churchill's United Europe Committee on the ground that, while it was desirable to encourage maximum co-operation between the European nations, an organisation led by Mr. Churchill was not likely to stimulate such co-operation.

In the recent foreign affairs debate in the Commons, Mr. Bevin spoke of a "Western Union," and, on the same occasion, Mr. Attlee urged the need of leadership in the non-Communist world.

The party now wants Western Union—though Mr. Bevin did not explain what he meant by the phrase—but not Western Union, or European Union, under the Churchillian aegis. This, of course, is remarkably like a purely party approach to a world problem.

The Labour Party is in something of a dilemma in this matter. When Mr. Churchill urged European unity long ago and his United Europe Committee was formed, the party stood aloof and suspicious, and reproved Labour men who hastened to take part. A number of Labour men are, nevertheless, still in it. Now the force of events have brought the party into line, while still presenting Mr. Churchill to its members as untouchable; and barring to all the Labour faithful the Congress proposed for The Hague.

It will, of course, go on and Mr. Churchill may be expected to take a very prominent part in the gathering. It would be a fitting recognition of his present statesmanship. If he were asked to preside over it,

DOCTORS' BATTLE WITH ANEURIN BEVAN By GLANVILLE CAREW

Who shall decide, when doctors disagree with the Minister of Health?

It is the avowed policy of the present Administration to nationalise our medical service. In accordance with that policy, a Bill was brought in to Parliament last year by the Minister of Health—Mr. Aneurin ("Nye") Bevan. It passed through both Houses and after a somewhat troubled transit has emerged as the National Health Service Act which will come into effect in July next if a sufficient number of doctors are willing to implement it. At present that "if" is indeed a very large one.

The act aims to render free medical aid to all persons without any reservation whatever. Doctors (and dentists) are to be chosen by the patient, who will be entitled to receive treatment at Health Centres, at his own home or at the doctor's surgery, as may be expedient in each case.

The Option

Doctors are given the option of joining in the scheme of the Act or standing outside it, and will not be debarred from private practice if they elect to refrain from joining. In hospital and consultant service all forms of general and specialist care and treatment, both for in-patients and out-patients, will be provided. Specialists' opinions will be available to all, high or low, both in hospitals and a patient's own home.

The Minister of Health will be responsible for the Service which will be accompanied by course by the usual Committees, regional boards, rules and regulations which seem to cling naturally to all nationalisation schemes.

On the very face of it, the Act does confer great benefits upon the ordinary citizen inasmuch as it will enable him to obtain for himself and his wife and family the very best and fullest medical aid without the paralysing worry of anticipating a doctor's bill which he may not be able to meet. Of course there are strong objections to the Act by some people of the type to whom the whole idea of the nationalisation of medicine—or for that matter of anything else—is anathema. In

Parliament the Conservative opposition was based not so much on free and national medical aid as on a belief that the same benefits could be conferred on the public by other schemes short of nationalisation. No such schemes have so far been prescribed.

However, a plebiscite is to be taken to discover just how many doctors are willing to join in the National Health Service and try to make it work and how many will reject it. On that point the position at present is that the British Medical Association—which represents the majority of medical men—is advising its members throughout the country not to implement the Act as being in principle in conflict with the basic ethics of the profession.

Looking Askance

At the same time the Socialist Medical Association has sent a memorandum to its members (about 1,000) urging them to ignore the British Medical Association's advice and to vote in favour of co-operation. So the issue at the present time is largely one between the Government—the Ministry of Health—and the doctors.

To a layman it might seem that the medical profession as a whole, and as distinct from the public, may with some reason look askance at some of the provisions of the Act. For instance, the purpose of the enactment is to provide ample and easily accessible medical assistance to everyone in all districts of the country. To effect this it is argued that it is imperative that the movements of medical men must, in some degree, be controlled so that there shall not be an excessive number of doctors in some areas and a scarcity in others.

With this in view the Act provides for the abolition of ownership of goodwill in a doctors' practice, compensation being provided for in the case of those who agree to join in the Service. In other words, a doctor will no longer be able to "sell his practice." There will also be a committee of control on the movement of doctors from one area into another. Doctors in general don't seem to like such provisions one little bit.

Other Objections

There are other professional objections:

The methods of payment of doctors are left to ministerial regulations though it does not appear that in the matter of income there is any intention to exploit the profession.

Another objection: The Act, as it stands, does not make doctors civil servants, but it at least

makes it possible for a sufficiently ardent Nationalist-Minister at any time to convert doctors by regulation into full-time State-paid servants. So what's in a name?

Yet another snag for the medico. In the event of a dispute with the Ministry of Health, the doctors' sole court of appeal is to be the Minister himself.

In such a state of affairs a layman may wonder whether the doctor's primary allegiance will be to the doctor's employer—the State.

So the position at the moment is teetering on the point whether or not a sufficient number of doctors will agree to try to make the Act work. If not, it looks as though the operative date of the Act will have at least to be postponed.

Feeling that they are dealing with a Minister in the shape of a red-headed, very likeable but temperamental and unpredictable Celt who wags his tail at them one day and growls the next, doctors may well hesitate, when they pick up the plebiscite form, and mutter unenially—CAVE CANEM.—United Press.

W.H. Donald And The Chiangs

New York, Feb. 12. William H. Donald broke with Chiang Kai-shek because he could no longer stand wartime Kuomintang corruption, but died six years later hoping Generalissimo Chiang would triumph over the Communists, according to a biography of the famed Australian published recently.

Donald related his life in 1946 to Earl Albert Selts, then columnist for the "Honolulu Advertiser." Donald, a doctor, was in a Hawaiian hospital bed where he lay dying of cancer. The biography is "Donald of China." It is the story of a mystery man who spent 17 years helping the Kuomintang and advising Sun Yat-sen, the Chiang Kai-shek and many other Chinese leaders.

Selts said Donald gave Communist leader Chou En-lai major credit for the release of Chiang Kai-shek when the Generalissimo was "kidnapped" in Siam by non-Communist bandits. Donald participated in the negotiations. He showed Chiang's diary to the kidnappers, and said it showed them the Generalissimo was then secretly preparing to fight the Japanese while publicly trying to appease them until he was ready.

The break came at Hanoi when Chinese officials and Donald were preparing to flee from advancing Japanese armies. Donald "had seen an ambulance provided by American funds stop before a bank in which one of the Government officials had a heavy interest. Through the crowd of spectators that had gathered to

CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner



"You've got him guessing, Battler—he's wondering what's holding you up!"

CANTON FACES THE NEW YEAR

Canton, Feb. 13. This South China metropolis, with a population of a million and a quarter, is a city of great contrasts. There is a sharp cleavage in the standard of living between the immensely rich and the extremely poor. While billions of dollars are being spent in a single night of entertainment in the city's restaurants, round street corners are emaciated beggars—men, women and children—not knowing when they will have their next meal.

It is not only the destitute that are suffering. Wage-earners, especially Chinese Government employees, and labourers are showing physical signs of malnutrition.

In early 1943, Canton somewhat resembles the British colony of Hong Kong in the early months of 1947. There is here today the same superficial prosperity. Restaurants are full from 11 a.m. till 11 p.m., and cinema theatres play to capacity houses.

Money is apparently plentiful for the minority, as fortunes are easily made by some. And they are anxious to spend their money before China's currency takes another downward plunge.

Shops, especially groceries, are well stocked with imported goods. Watches and fountain pens are in abundance.

With the money class living here is more comfortable than in most parts of China and the Far East. Much of the imported goods cannot be said in the legal sense to have been smuggled into Canton. There are large groups of people travelling to and from between here and Hong Kong bringing with them what is allowed by the Customs authorities. These "traders," it is understood, make about HK\$15 each trip.

Cars Scarce Such goods as radios and motor cars, which cannot be brought in through this channel, are scarce. The latter are so scarce that even Dr. T. V. Soong, the Governor of Kwangtung, is learned, uses a borrowed car.

Austerity, as in Hong Kong and elsewhere in China where food is plentiful, is merely a word, the meaning of which is known only to those who live hand-to-mouth.

Vice is being steadily stamped out. There are no street walkers to pester the public at night, and gambling is prohibited. The few dancing halls operating have been given about another two months before being closed down.

The cost of living, on Chinese standards, which up to the end of last year was far below that of Shanghai, is now rapidly catching up. For the foreigner, family budgeting is becoming an acute problem.

In spite of the difficult times, the populace look forward to this Year of Rat with reserved optimism. The Cantonese are perhaps the most philosophical of all Chinese. They argue that if China's foremost economist (Dr. Soong) cannot improve present conditions, then the situation is beyond the task of any mortal, and they simply have to carry on until the corner is finally turned.—Reuter.

WORSE AND WORSE

Stamps, Arkansas, Feb. 12. Mrs. Polly Knott, living near here, went out to feed her live-stock, fell on the ice-covered ground, and sprained her ankle. Mrs. Mattie Lemay, Mrs. Knott's sister, went to her assistance, slipped and fell, fracturing her wrist. Game Warden Clint Lemay rushed to assist his mother and aunt, slipped down the steps and broke his leg.—Associated Press.

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By SHEPARD BARCLAY
"THE AUTHORITY ON AUTHORITIES"

A LEAD MIS-DIRECTOR

THERE is such a thing as being too dependable. In extreme emergencies, reliable information to your partner can not enable him to accomplish what is necessary; your sole hope is to get an opponent to help you. One of the most dramatic devices for such a purpose is the lead misdirection bid. By bidding a suit which you don't want led, you may frighten the enemy into leading exactly what you do desire.

S 8 5
H A K Q J 4
D A Q
C A 9 6 3

S Q J 9 4 2 N S A K 10 7
H 10 7 3 W H 8 6 5
D J 10 8 6 3 E D K 9 5 2
C None S C 10 7

(Dealer: North. Both sides vulnerable.)
North East South West
1 H Pass 2 C Pass
2 S Pass 3 C Pass
6 C

Coming toward the end of a tournament team match—with only two deals to follow—this hand gave North and South a chance to "shoot" in an effort to make up the ground they knew they had lost through disasters on the immediately preceding boards. North estimated roughly that his side was about 1,000 points behind at the time, and that getting the same result at his table that the opposing North-South pair obtained at the other would mean defeat for his side.

As soon as he heard his partner bid clubs, he decided to stick the slide into a slam contract and try to prevent the dangerous-looking spade lead. He reckoned that his hearts would give South all the diamonds he might require in spades and diamonds.

The spade bid worked like a charm. It steered West away from that suit and into leading the diamond J. South of course refused the finesse, took out trumps and used the hearts for discards.

After the match was over, and the scores were compared, it developed that the opponents also tried for a club slam, but got a spade lead and were set. That made a total swing of 1,490 points, enough to wipe out the existing deficit, which was 1,190. Since the last two boards were tied, this tricky bid won the match by a margin of 300 points.

Tomorrow's Problem

S J 10 7 6 2
H A 5 4
D None
C A Q J 9 3
S 4 3
H 8 6 3
D A Q 10
C K 8

S K 9 8
H K Q 9
D K J 6 4 3
C 10 5

(Dealer: North. North-South vulnerable.)

Britain And Middle East

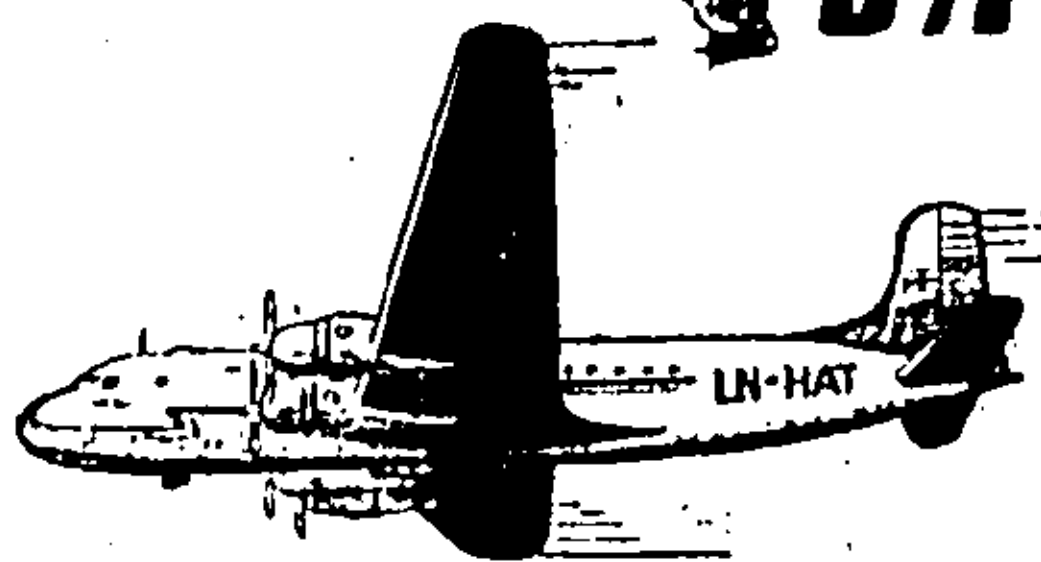
London, Feb. 11. Britain is maintaining contact with the Middle East states on matters of common concern. Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, said in the House of Commons today:

It was not possible, he added, to any at present in what way friendly relations with particular states should be developed.

Mr. P. Piratin, Communist Member, had asked if the Foreign Secretary still intended to carry through with other Middle East states such agreements as that rejected by Iraqi which was to be the basis of others of a similar kind.

When Mr. Piratin further asked if the Foreign Secretary would state his reputation on applying this problem as he had with Palestine, Mr. Bevin replied: "Don't think I have been unsuccessful in the case of Palestine yet. It is not yet over."—Reuter.

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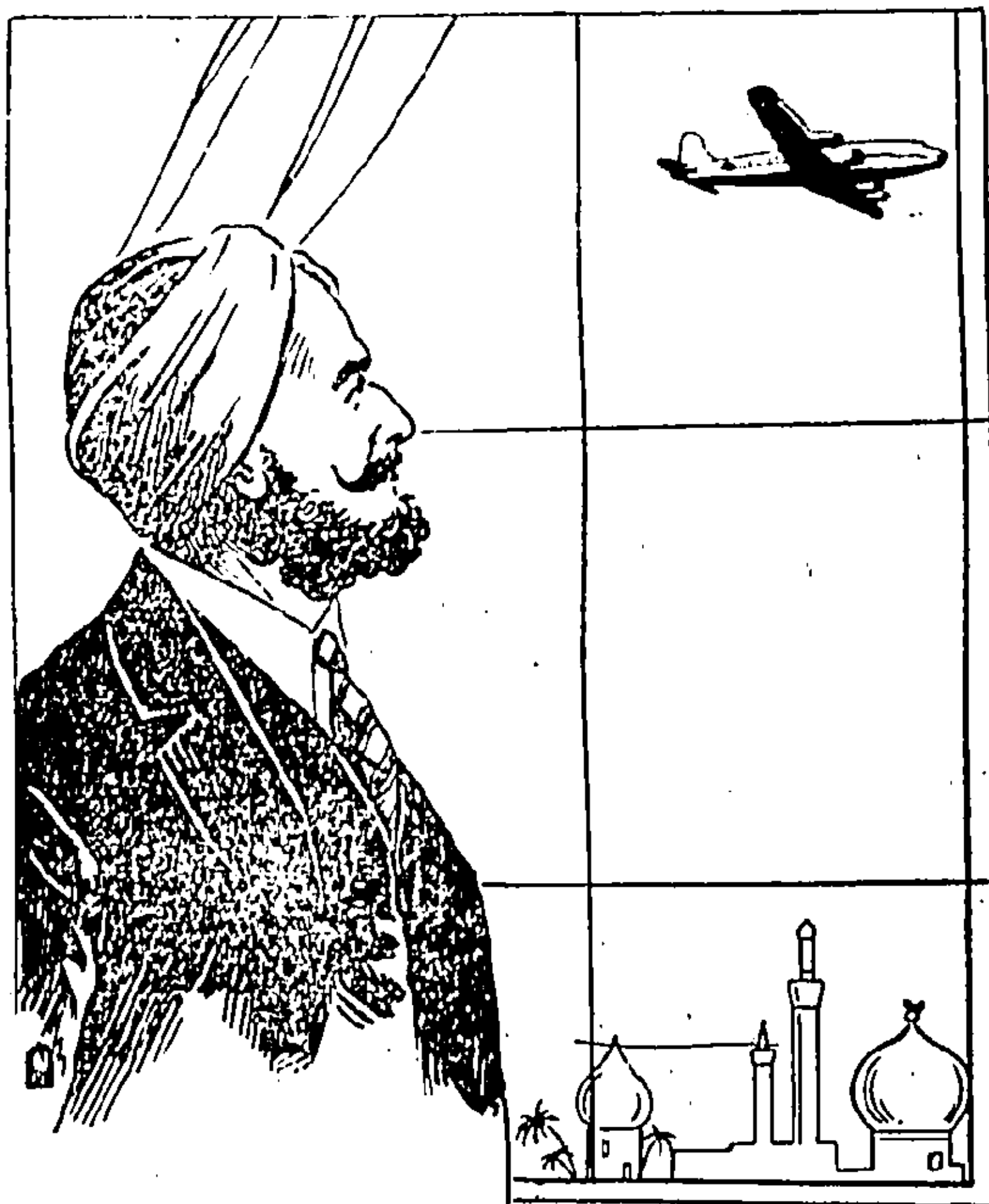
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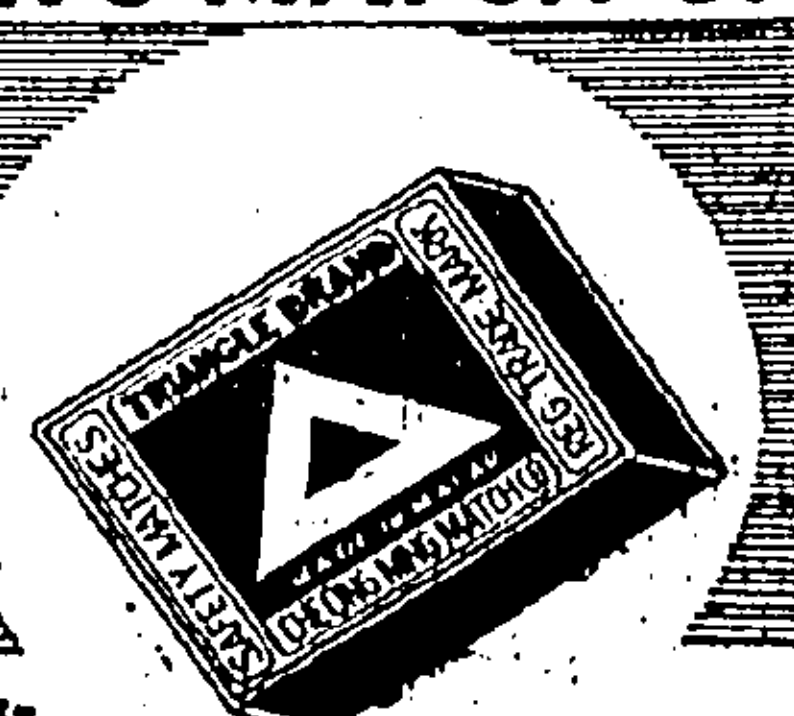
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CRIPPS WAR ON INFLATION

Employers Asked To Produce A Plan To Reduce Both Prices And Profits

London, Feb. 12.

Employers have been asked to work out a plan to decrease prices and profits, Sir Stafford Cripps, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, told the House of Commons tonight.

Sir Stafford, who was speaking in a one-day debate on wage policy, said he had asked employers to let him have their proposals within a month.

The employers' main organisation—the Federation of British Industries—had already given its answer and "will do their utmost to assist in that way."

"I want to see a voluntary cutting on all prices of goods which do not come within price control," Sir Stafford declared. "Excess profits upset the whole economic system and create false values."

Leading for the Government in the debate, Sir Stafford went on: "We cannot disregard the accumulation and distribution of large profits at a time when all sections of the community are being asked to exercise restraint as to their personal incomes."

"Reasonable profits are a fair reward, but excess profits upset the whole economic system and create false values."

"If this measure of restraint or sacrifice can be shown by those who draw their income from profits, then there is a good chance of persuading wage and salary earners also to exercise restraint in the use of pressure which the scarcity of labour enables them to apply."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that the Government proposes an immediate ceiling at the level ruling last December and last month on manufacturers' prices of all goods which come within the price control system but have not already got a sufficiently close price control.

The Objective

"Our objective is to reduce prices wherever possible and so to reduce profits," Sir Stafford declared.

Sir Stafford said that in the face of overriding national difficulties, the Government must ask that negotiations for wage increases shall either be put off or else conducted in the light of the principle it had laid down.

"We are dealing with the next year and not with eternity," he declared. "We are not suggesting that there shall never be wage and salary increases in the future. But until we are out of our difficulty, we should all hold our hands in this matter of personal income and be prepared to await a time when the urgent needs of our nation are not so overwhelmingly pressing as they undoubtedly are today."

Stressing the effect on exports of rising wages and prices, Sir Stafford said: "If our prices frighten off foreign buyers, we shall be unable to buy food and the raw materials necessary, and we shall suffer unemployment."

Not Out Of Hand

More production and lower costs were the prime safeguards against these possibilities.

There were three ways in which the tendency to inflation could be arrested. The first was by the voluntary maintenance and self-restraint of manufacturers, distributors and workers. The second was by direct Governmental action and the third a combination of the other two.

The other points Sir Stafford made were that controls and subsidies had saved Britain from an uncontrolled inflation.

"The situation is not yet out of hand," he declared.

A clear danger was the continued rise in personal incomes without any more goods being available on the markets.

"If we are to achieve even with Marshall aid the balance of payments, we must greatly increase exports. If we cannot increase them sufficiently, we shall then be driven to reduce our imports still further."

Therefore no more goods could be made available for the home market.

Tory Approach

Mr. Anthony Eden, deputy leader of the Opposition, who had opened the debate, said that if the Chancellor of the Exchequer intended, to face the real fact, he had the Opposition's support.

Mr. Eden then accused the Government of making an "alternating succession of warnings and optimistic forecasts."

Recalling a Christmas-time speech by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Herbert Morrison, in which he said that Britain was "rounding the recovery corner," Mr. Eden compared

it with the "menacing gap" in Britain's balance of payments referred to on Tuesday by Sir Stafford Cripps.

"I do not understand how it is possible for members of the same party to make such completely contradictory statements," he commented.

The Opposition, he declared, wholeheartedly subscribed to the principle that there must be an equal distribution of the burden to check inflation.

The Last Resort

But whatever steps might be necessary in respect of distributed profits, he hoped nothing would be done to discourage the ploughing back of profits into industry. That was indispensable to Britain's long-term survival as an industrial nation.

In the last resort, the only way to get out of the present position was by increased output. It was therefore essential that the Government's "very proper desire" to combat inflation did not result in any action which might kill initiative.

For that reason, he urged that workers should have further income relief, paid for by decreased governmental expenditure.

Taking a long-term view, there was no cause whatever for despair, Mr. Eden declared.

"Grave Concern"

After referring to the great resources in the British Commonwealth and Empire and the key position geography had given Britain in Western Europe, Mr. Eden declared: "Can anyone say, with all those opportunities, that there is no hope for the future?"

"Of course there is, but only if we handle our business in the right way. If the Government feel themselves unequal to the task of Government, it is my duty to tell them there are others who feel they can discharge that task with better heart and the sincere conviction that under their leadership, the nation could ride the gathering storm."

Mr. Eden then moved an Opposition amendment expressing "grave concern over the present state of the nation" and welcoming any well chosen measures designed to check inflation and to restore the country's prosperity.—*Reuter.*

Labour Still To Boycott Churchill

London, Feb. 12.

The Executive of the Labour Party has reaffirmed its ban on attendance by party members at the "Congress of Europe" at The Hague in May.

Mr. Winston Churchill, leader of the Conservative Opposition and head of the "United Europe" organisation in Britain (one of four bodies which called the Congress), today published a letter from the War Minister, Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell, Chairman of the Labour Executive, stating that "the proposed composition of the Congress seems to us open to objection."

Labour had decided over a year ago not to support the "United Europe" movement—Mr. Churchill's prominence in it being an important factor.

It issued a ban on attendance at The Hague at the beginning of February, after the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, had made his appeal for "Western unity."

In a letter to the Prime Minister, Clement Attlee, Mr. Churchill urged that the cause of European unity "should be kept above the level of our domestic party politics" and asked that it be made clear that members of the Labour Party might attend.

Mr. Churchill pointed out that prominent Socialist leaders in other countries had accepted invitations to go to The Hague. Mr. Attlee replied that it was a matter for the Labour Party Executive.

Churchill Visit

Mr. Churchill then visited the Executive Chairman, Mr. Shinwell. This resulted in a reaffirmation of the ban after a discussion "at some length". In his letter to Mr. Churchill, Mr. Shinwell declared: "The subject of European unity is much too important to be entrusted to unrepresentative interests."

Lifeboat's Great Effort

Selsey, Sussex, Feb. 12. A lifeboat spent nearly seven hours in high winds and heavy rain early today searching for a motor-boat which had broken down off Bognor.

After using a powerful searchlight the lifeboat picked up the boat, containing three men. The men in the motor-boat had burned their clothes trying to attract attention.

The lifeboat towed them to Littlehampton Harbour.—*Reuter.*

Premier Restates Position

London, Feb. 12.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Clement Attlee, in the House of Commons wages debate tonight, reaffirmed the Government's belief in collective bargaining in answer to critics who had asked why the Cabinet had not worked out a wages structure.

"But that does not mean there should be no attempt to influence the people of this country in their attitude to the wage question. That is exactly what we have done—an appeal has been made to both sides of industry."

"We should get people working together—both sides on industry—and hold fast in these particularly difficult times," the Prime Minister said.

"Britain has great assets and a great future. I do not think anybody does any good by going around in this country—and still more abroad (a reference to certain Conservatives)—crying 'stinking fish', because I am quite certain that we shall come through all our difficulties."—*Reuter.*

What The Plan Means

London, Feb. 12.

Sir Stafford Cripps's announcement on profits means that a rigorous price control will be enforced on everything that the British people buy in shops, except newspapers, books and jewellery.

It is indicated authoritatively that the Government has no intention of "freezing" prices at present levels. A more rigorous control system will probably bring some prices down substantially.

The Government is determined that the permitted maximum price should not be regarded as the minimum, as has so often proved to be the case.

No steps are announced to prevent possible increases in the price of staple foods, most of which are heavily subsidised by the Government.

Such increases could be averted only by increasing the amount of the subsidies—which now total £100,000,000—or by buying cheaper.

A falling international price market in food encourages the hope that food price rises may be nearing an end and that a drop may shortly follow.

One criticism in the past was that the control of essentials encouraged the production of less essential articles because they could yield the manufacturer a bigger profit.

The new proposals will discourage this practice.

The main purpose of the new measures is to ensure that the public is not provoked by excessive profits into wholesale demands for wage increases.—*Reuter.*

Prices Slip Back

Washington, Feb. 12.

Breaks in the stocks and commodity market in the United States have put prices back where they were when the Marshall Plan estimates were first made, the State Department said today.

With prices thus readjusted by depreciation, the proposed expenditure of \$6,800 million will again buy as much as it was intended that they should when the plan was laid down last October, the State Department added.

This claim was the signal for the anti-Marshall Plan forces in Congress to call anew for cuts in the American contribution. The group of so-called "revisionists"—20 legislators who have banded together to cut and amend the European recovery programme—insisted that "the commodity decline means that the State Department should now, of its own accord, revise its figures downwards."—*Reuter.*

Russians Fortifying Port Arthur?

Shanghai, Feb. 13.

The Chinese newspaper, "Shun Pao," in a Mukden dispatch claimed today that it was reliably learned that the Soviet Union is massing more than 100,000 troops in the Dairen-Port Arthur area where former Japanese fortifications have been considerably strengthened with six-foot reinforced concrete walls lining lengthy trenches, while pillboxes every one-sixth of a mile have been built on the coast.—*United Press*

Siamese Raid Into Burma

Rangoon, Feb. 12.

Siamese bandits, crossing the frontier into Burma, looted the Government Treasury and Arms Depot at a small town 120 miles from the fishing port of Mergui on the South Eastern Burma coast, the newspaper "Progress" reported on Thursday.

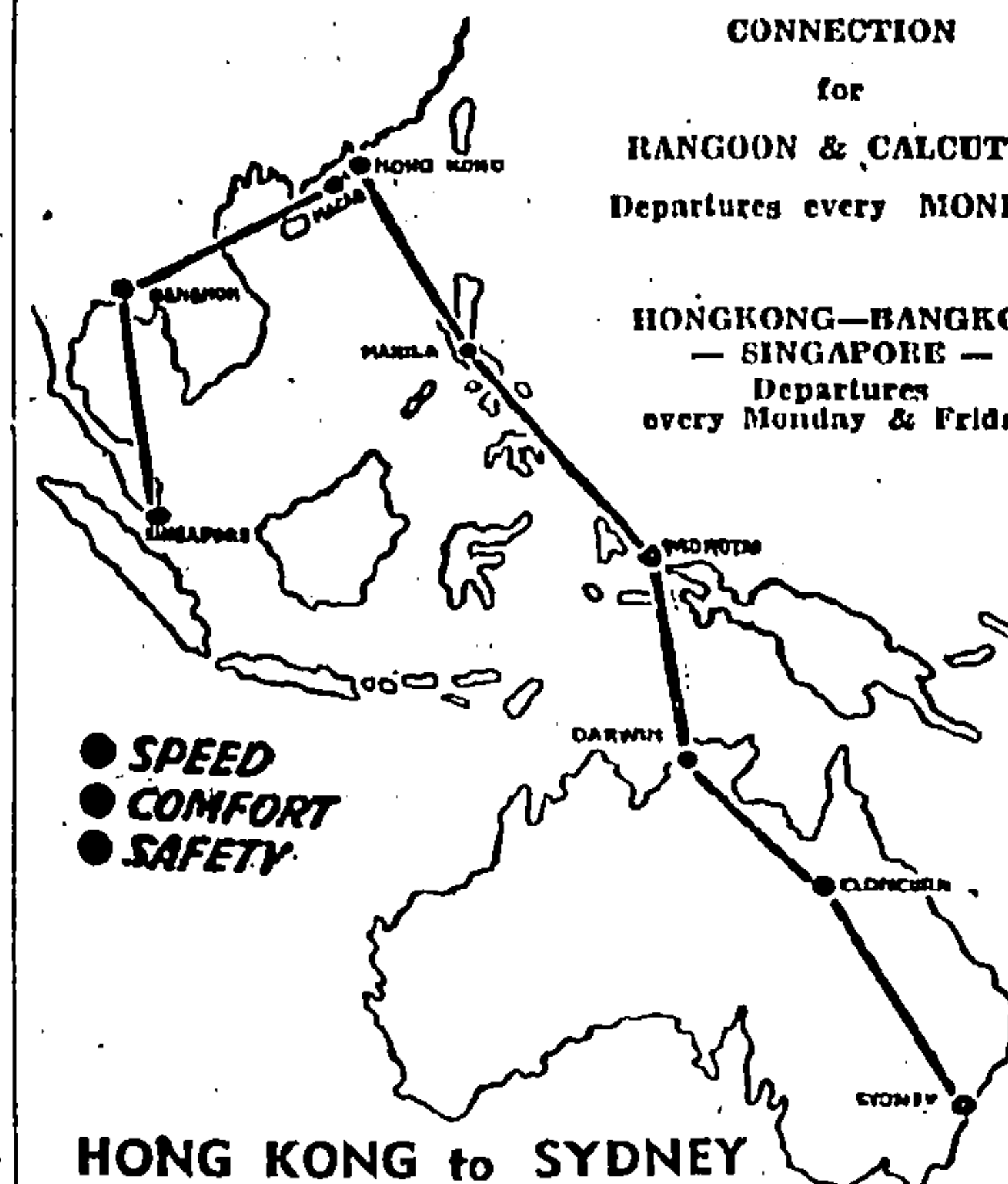
The paper said the bandits were armed with American-made machine-guns.—*Associated Press*

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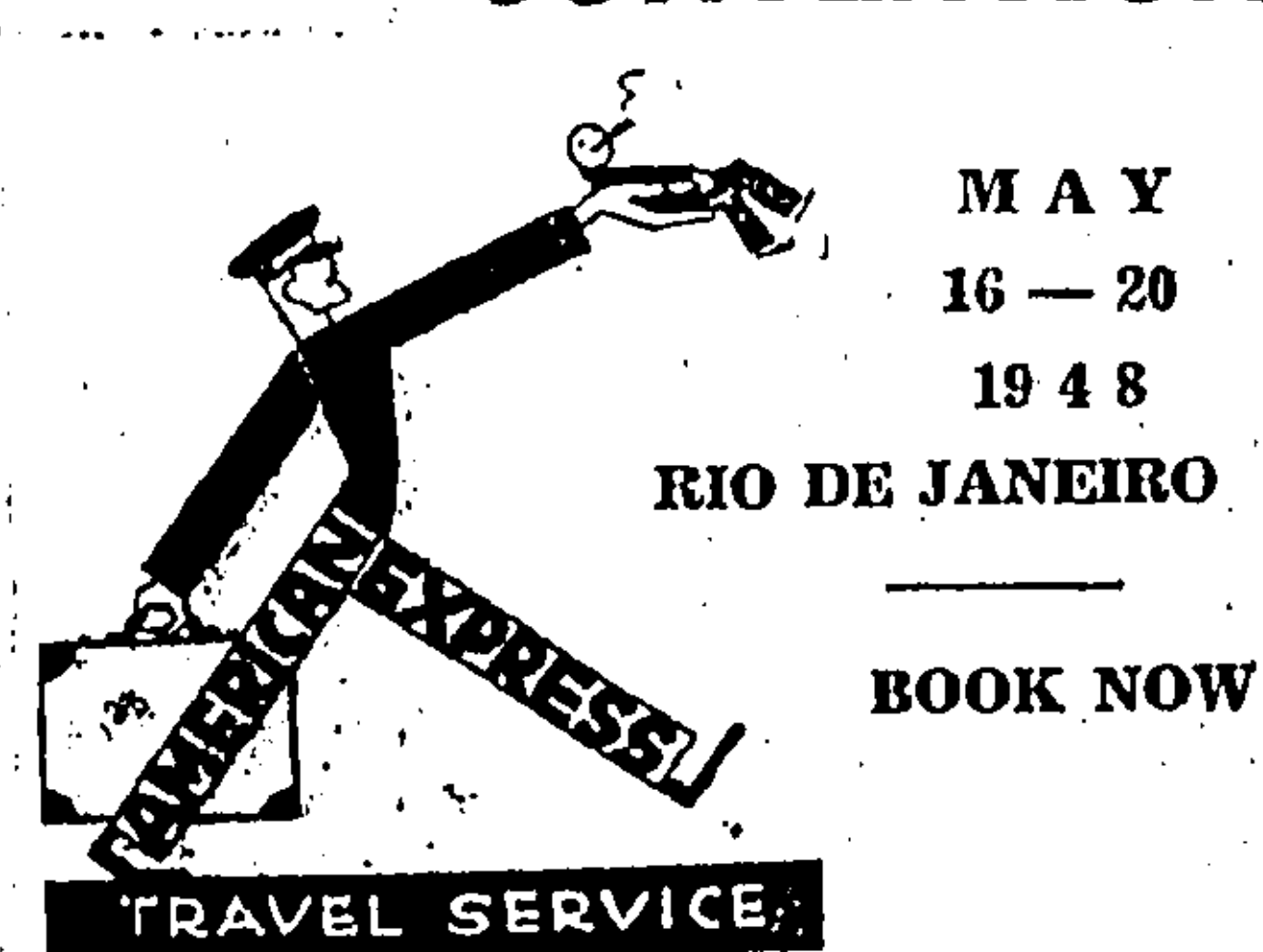
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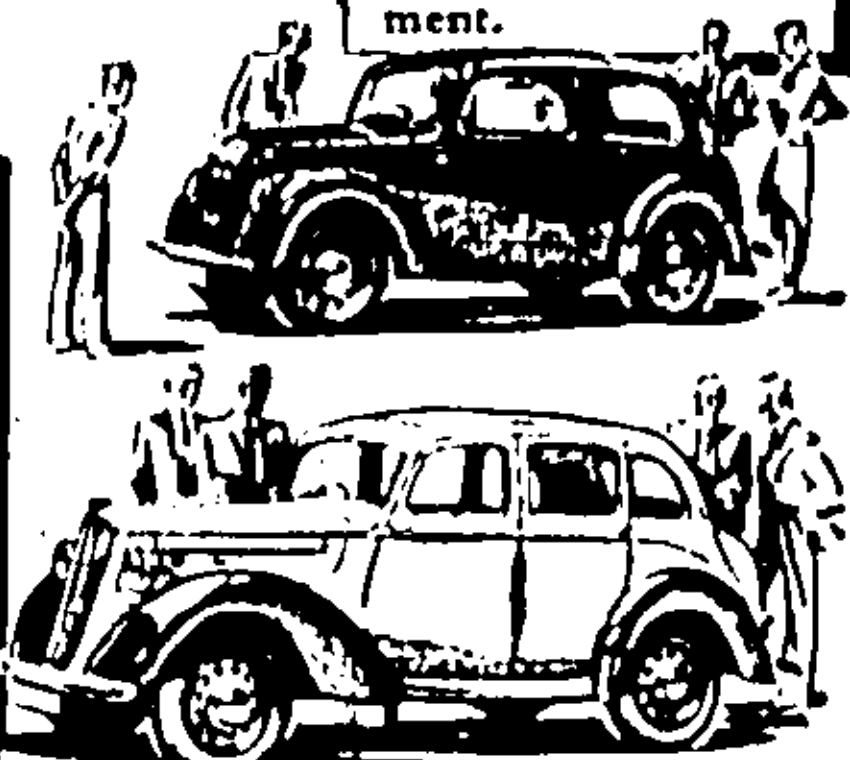
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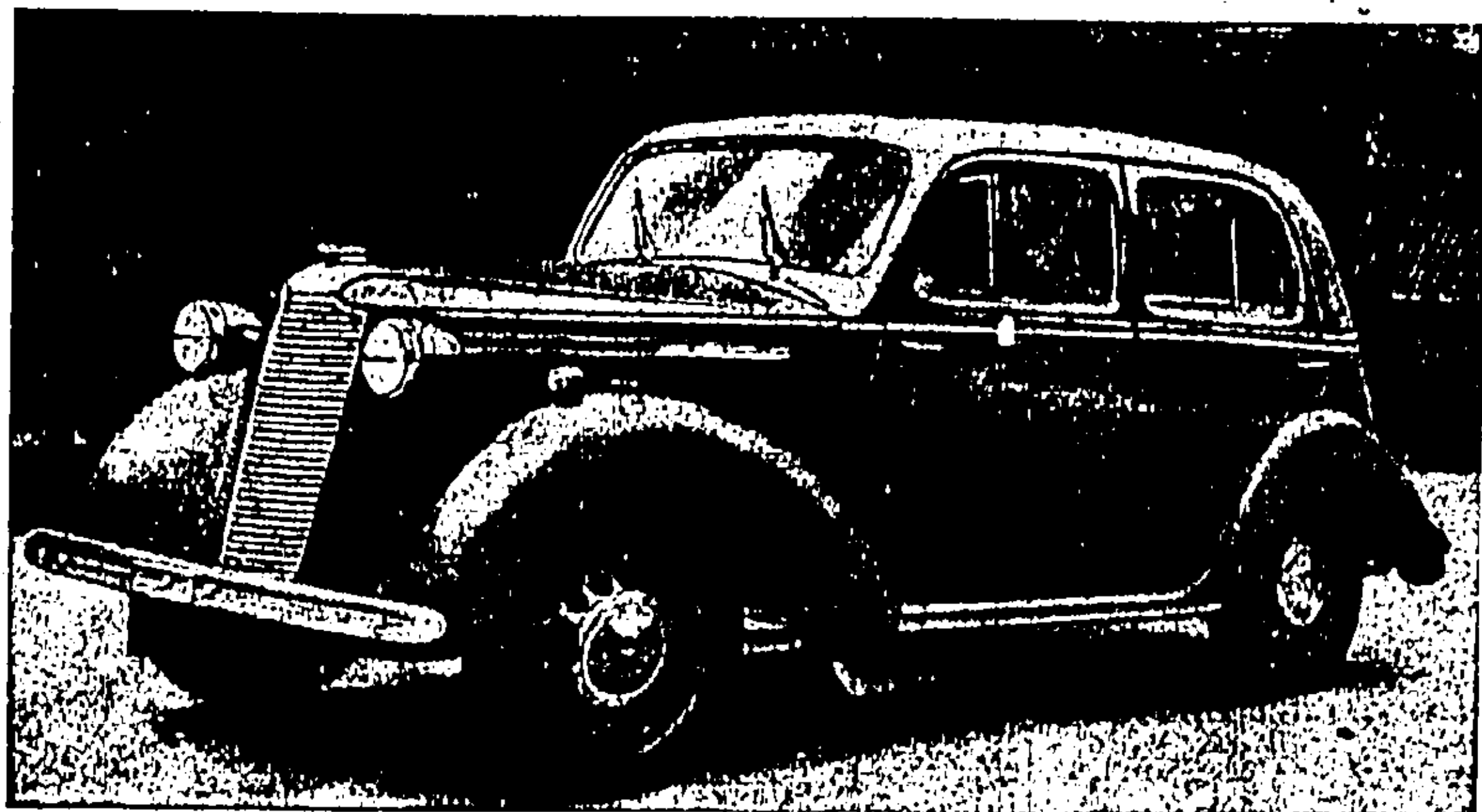
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MOTERING NEWS AND VIEWS

Will Britain Learn The Trade?

A lot of people have had their say about the export market for British cars—managing directors, designers, enthusiasts, owners in far-off lands, editorial writers, Mr. Dalton, and possibly a few others whom I've overlooked. To them I apologise; any slight is quite unintentional. But now I think it's time to listen for a minute to a man who thinks he knows more about the export problem than all the others combined—a dealer or agent for British cars in a foreign country.

It isn't that we dealers are any brighter than any of the above-mentioned personnel (if we were we wouldn't have gone into the business of trying to sell a motor vehicle in competition with the Detroit product). The agent for a British car is the most capable of speaking comprehensively on the subject simply because he is closest to the problem and most affected by it. We live with it; every time we open our account books the export problem stares us in the face; it shakes us by the hand when we greet a prospective customer. Sometimes we even have nightmares about it. It's that kind of a problem.

Close To The Core

I am well qualified to speak for my fellow-tradersmen throughout the world because I'm closer to the core of the problem than are many of them, and for me the problem is drawn in the clearest possible terms. I am selling British cars in the United States—the modern version of the man who carried coals to Newcastle! But for all other agents for British cars it is the same problem—being only a matter of degree. I am merely closer to the source of our competition. The problem under discussion has many ramifications, but the one basic unescapable fact that over-shadows all others is the measure of value set up by the big American car from Detroit. It doesn't matter whether the dealer is myself, operating in the Western U.S., or someone selling Austins in Auckland, Siddleys in Siam, or Rileys in Rio—for all of us the problem is the same.

The customer looks at the price tag and says (no matter in what language): "...But I can get a Cadillac for that price." Or he opens the hood

(bonnet) and says (in any of twenty languages): "...But it's only got four cylinders; the six-cylinder Chev is the same price—I think I'll buy that!" And too often he does. That is what makes the export problem. It is, as you see, relatively simple—too high a price, too few cylinders, not enough horse-power (not necessarily too small a car). Almost every customer, anywhere in the world, uses as his measure of value, his automotive yardstick, the price and performance of the big, cheap Ford V8 or the Chevrolet, and, further up the scale, Cadillac or Lincoln.

Not Capable

And against this set of values the British car (and the French or Italian) simply has not been able to compete. Remember now that almost everywhere in the world the world the big, 100 brake-horse-power, 85 m.p.h., roomy, comfortable Ford, Chevrolet, Plymouth, sell for the same price or even less than an Austin or Standard Eight—and any prospective buyer of a family type of car, considering value for money expended, is certainly going to choose the sedan from Detroit, not the saloon from Coventry.

There are no ifs, ands, or buts that really count—we agents who meet Mr. Average Motorist know what he thinks and does when he compares the English Eight with the Detroit V8.

In the past I have maintained that, as British manufacturers cannot compete on a size and price basis with American cars, their export plans must not be based upon large family cars or upon sales to the buyers of that type. English manufacturers simply must not try to make exactly the same kind of vehicle as that in which Detroit specializes. America does not manufacture every type of car and cannot efficiently do so. The normal large family sedan is produced in such enormous numbers that there is little prospect of British success in attempting to compete directly with it—therefore do not do so. Produce instead those types which Detroit does not produce at all or does not produce well.

These are:—
1. Sports cars.
2. Luxury cars.
3. An entirely new compact family-type car.

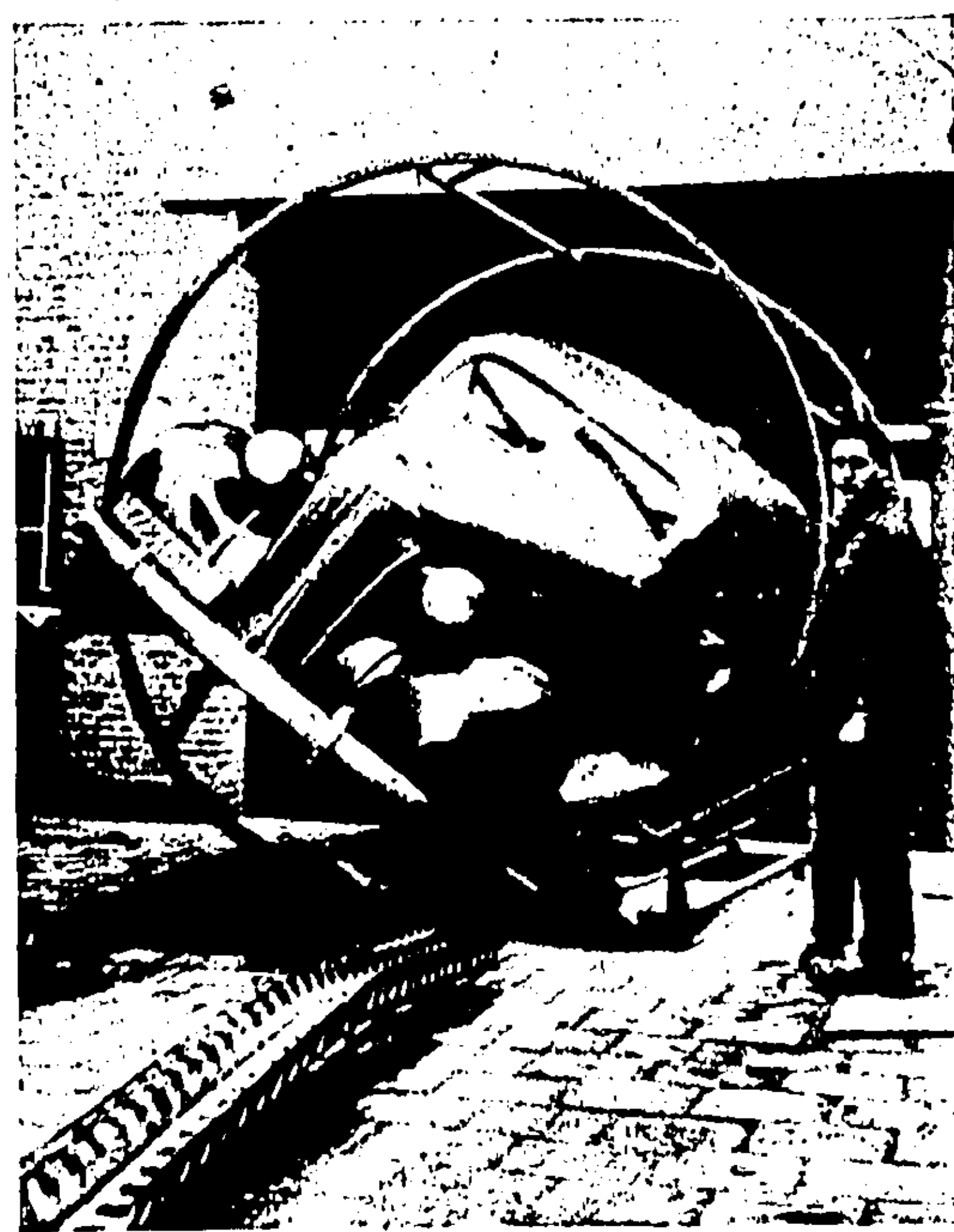
Some months ago the list would have included only categories 1 and 2, but it is quite possible that in the future category 3 will be the most important. But let us consider each in detail.

Sports Car

First, the sports car—offers one of the easiest and most permanent markets for the British manufacturer, and the world market for this type could be expanded tremendously. Detroit has no reputation in this field and will probably never enter it. However (and this deserves capital letters), England has not yet produced a really first-rate sports car capable of providing what is promised by the name and able to stand up to continuous hard usage. Most small British sports cars can be beaten in acceleration and top speed by any cheap American family car.

The sports car the world market awaits needs an absolutely rigid chassis (substantiated by more than catalogue claims), good independent suspension, front and rear, a rugged, easily serviced overhead valve engine of more than four cylinders, and a power-to-

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THE LIVELIEST AND NOISIEST!

To men in Britain's newest, liveliest and noisiest national sport—midget car-racing—are busy making plans for what they believe will be a bumper year.

And while officials talk, grease-smeared enthusiasts in scores of private workshops are busy in their spare moments building pocket-size racers which in a few months will be snarling up freak hills in a halo of exhaust smoke or buzzing round improvised race tracks.

The new sport started at Bristol in a small way during the war. It was born when a few talented enthusiasts built home-made midget cars—chain-driven and powered by 500 c.c. motor-cycle engines—to make the thrills of motor racing available for a few hundred pounds to eager young bloods with slender purses.

There are few youngsters today who can find £3,000 for a full-size racing car and another £1,000 a year to run it. So the midget movement has leaped ahead.

Already it has its own organization—the "Five Hundred Club"—and its own magazine. Amazing records have been chalked up already by these tiny single-seat racers. At the Brighton International speed

trials, for instance, a Cooper midget set up a new record of 68.6 m.p.h. for the standing-start kilometre. The sporting aluminium "bee-tle" was doing a steady 106 when it crossed the line. The achievements of Eric Bradon, Colin Strang, John Cooper, Harry ("Tiger Kitten") Lones, and other drivers of these 4500 midgets have been a fine advertisement for British engineering skill.

The 100 m.p.h. Cooper has a 498 c.c. single-cylinder J.A.P. motor-cycle engine, similar to that used in many a motor-cycle-and-sidecar family combination.

Through a four-speed motor-cycle gearbox the little engine drives, by chain, a solid axle which dispenses with the normal differential gearing. One secret of its road-holding success, despite its incredible lightness, is its independent suspension on all four wheels.

The wheelbase is only 6ft. 11in.—much less than that of the average 10 h.p. family saloon—and the track is a bare 4ft. Highest part of the car is only 3ft. off the ground and it weighs little more than 500lb.

weight ratio that will provide enough performance to cope with the biggest and most powerful sedans from America. Let us have enough power with high gears so that excessive revs are not needed and so that 90 m.p.h. speeds can be maintained safely over long distances. A stop-watch top speed of over 115 m.p.h. should be planned for. And all this should be provided at a cost of less than £1,000—much less. There is no point in saying it can't be done, for it can—and must.

(To be Continued)

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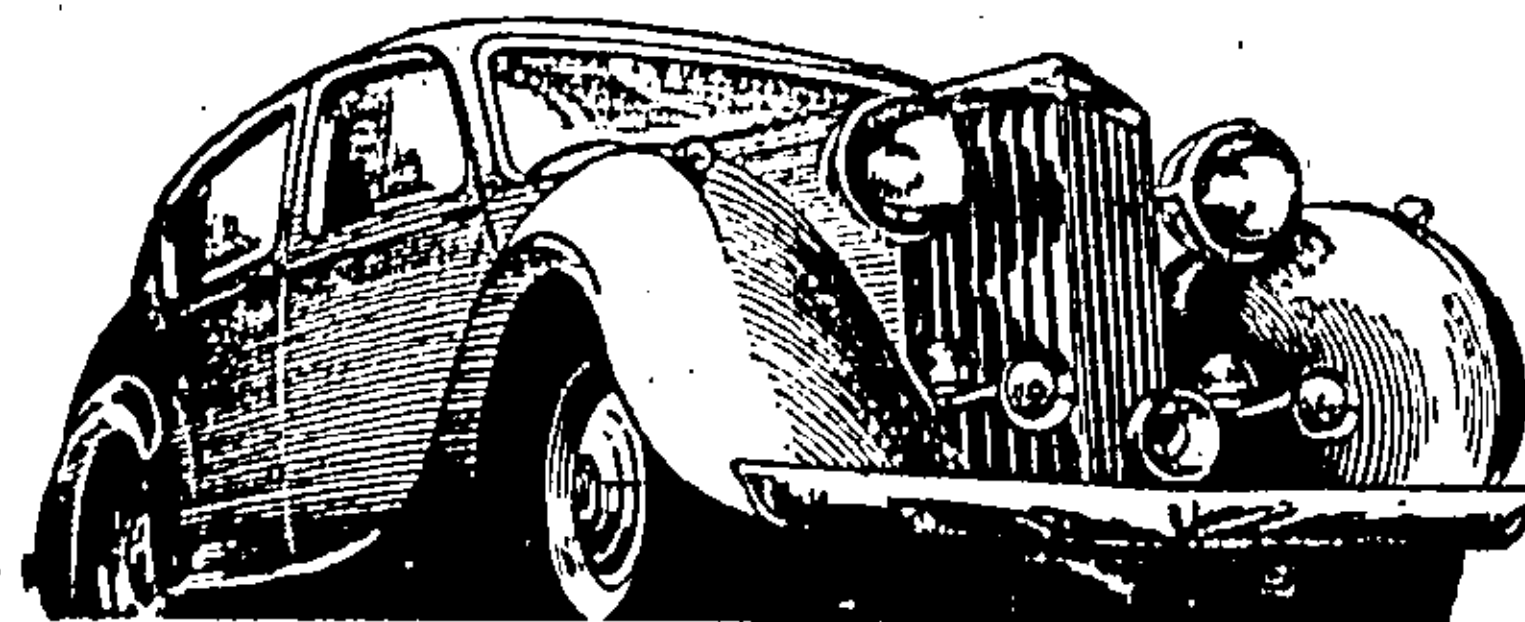


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AMERICA'S CHINA POLICY Roundly Condemned By "Fortune" Writer

Sung Sing Riot Trial

Shanghai, Feb. 13.
A special court will be set up to try two Sung Sing Cotton Mill rioters, Yang Kuang-ming and Hu Pao-hang, who have allegedly confessed to being Communist agents, according to Chinese press reports this morning.

Yang, who was employed as a copper-smith at the mill, is reported by the Municipal Press Office to have stated that he joined the Communist Party in Chungking in 1946. He came to Shanghai in July of that year and has since contacted members of his party. He referred to a named Wang Yim-ming who gave him advice and directions in contacting fellow Communist members.

Yang further stated that while he was working to enlist sympathizers for his party he found very few suitable candidates.

Hu Pao-hang said that his only act as a member of the Communist party was the submission of an autobiographical sketch to the party through Yang as evidence of good faith.

"Turn The Clock Back Ten Years"

New York, Feb. 12.

A decade of fumbling American policy toward China is blamed by a "Fortune" magazine writer for a situation in which the U.S. may lose "an entire continent as ally in its battle for the basic liberties."

Herrymon, Maurer, writing in the February issue, says emotion has ruled American reaction to China and, in the critical summer of 1944, it "came closer to breaking China than seven years of war."

Maurer cited the bewildering variety of ideas and activities by Americans associated with U.S.-Chinese relations during the past decade: Patrick Hurley, George Marshall, Wendell Willkie, Clarence E. Gauss, Joseph Stilwell, Cordell Hull, Albert Wedemeyer and many others.

Since the failure of the Marshall mission, he said, U.S. policy "when it found time to glance at China, saw a confusion that existed largely in its own mind. Some men wanted to send advisers to China but no money; others wanted to send money but could not see how to get the advisers."

"Little effort was made to clear the confusion away. Policy-makers made no more effort than Hall made in 1937 to examine the old policy of Hay, Hughes and Stimson. For ten years the old policy had been scuttled whenever it came in conflict with any other desire or even whim...."

"Whether the whole of Asia stands or falls before the impact of the messianic nationalism of Russian Communism, whether the U.S. wins or loses an entire continent as ally in its battle for the basic liberties—this heavy question hangs on what happened between China and the U.S. during a period of brief but unbearably intense contact. The failure of this stretch of history, made the more conspicuous by the few bright spots in it, has at length become apparent."

"For the Chinese there is hope only of another miracle of empty-handed resistance. For the Americans there is hope only for a miraculous overthrow of the last ten years of history in favour of an older policy that the ten years themselves overthrew."

Uncomfortable For Pirates

Canton, Feb. 12.

More than 12 speedboats of the Chinese Navy have made it so uncomfortable for pirates and bandits that Canton-Hong Kong river steamers have been able to navigate the Pearl River at night.

Meanwhile, provincial detachments were reported pushing their anti-bandit campaign in the central districts around Canton with some success, both on land and on the rivers. The largest number of bandits are located in North Kwangtung close to the Kwangsi border. A good number were reported to have surrendered to Government forces and may be enlisted in the provincial units. — Associated Press.

Salonika Takes Its Revenge

Salonika, Feb. 12.

The Greek Army today returned triumphant with the capture of 121 guerrillas who shelled Salonika on Tuesday and in a carnival-like spectacle paraded them before howling Salonikans who jabbed them with sharp sticks and pelted them with unsavoury missiles.

About half of the city's war swollen population of 480,000 turned out and waited hours for the Greek northern Army's "victory parade" of captives, men who

Severe Jolt For Shanghai

Shanghai, Feb. 13.

Businessmen returning to their offices after the Chinese New Year holiday today received a severe jolt as the government announced a smaller import quota for February until July.

According to the announcement, February-April quota will limit imports to US\$30,000,000, compared with US\$53,000,000 in the preceding quarter and the quota for May-July will be "about the same."

The new quotas are disappointing many traders, especially importers who expected slight relaxation in trade control now that the US\$18,000,000 stopgap aid has been approved by Congress and a US\$570,000,000 long-range aid programme is almost a certainty. — United Press.

lobbed mortar shells into the heart of the city two days ago. The jam became so great that the military parade was not able to pass down Tsinghsu Street as scheduled but was detained two blocks to the waterfront drive.

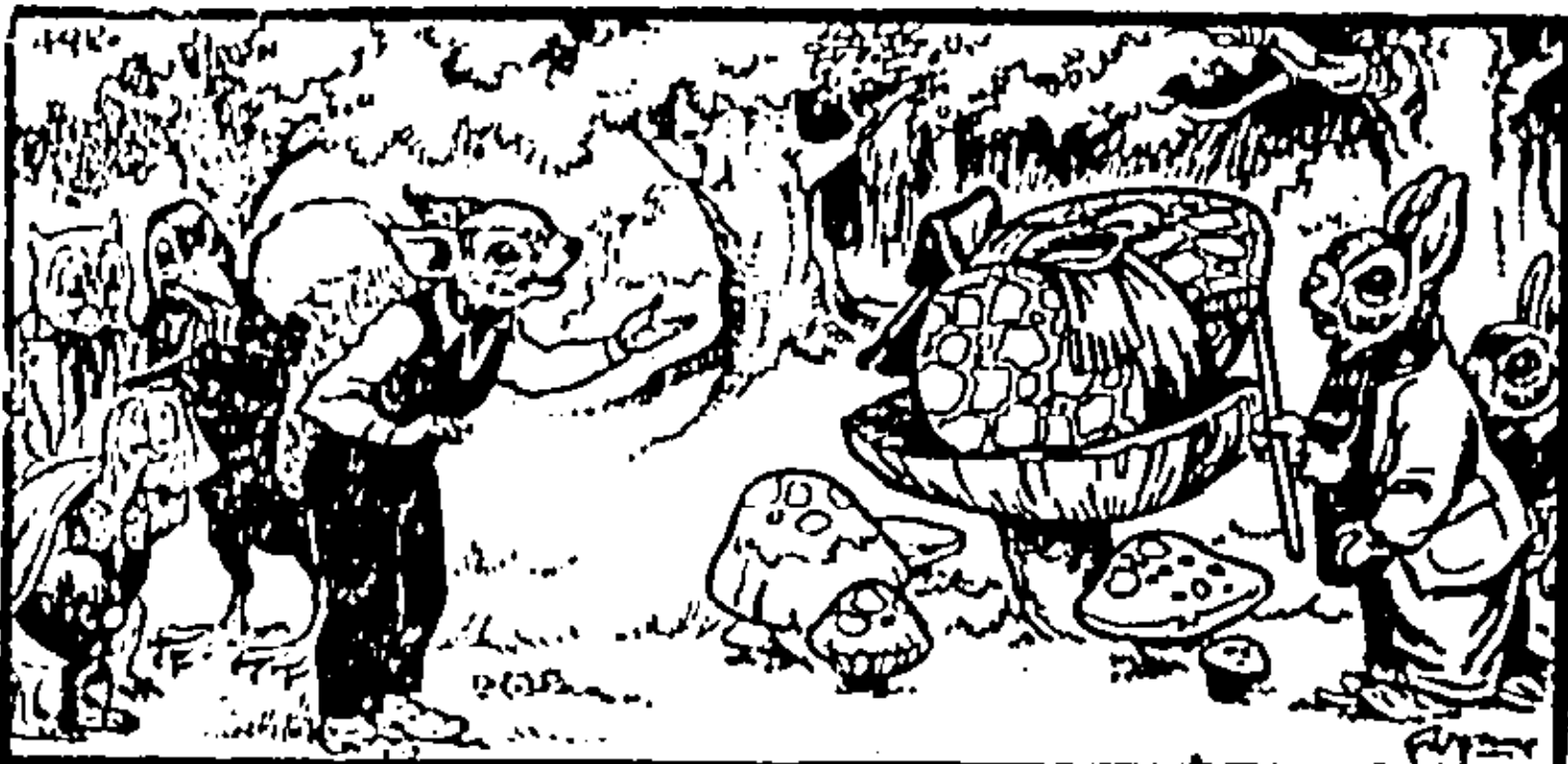
The spectacle was regarded as the Greek Army's bid to quiet public feeling over the shelling of Salonika in which one Briton and several townspeople were killed and nearly a score wounded.

The captives were ailen and morose and most of them doubtless expect quick execution.

The guerrilla line straggled along two or three abreast, headed by a woman wearing a khaki uniform. The woman marched briskly, unflinching under the crowd's abuse. The guerrillas paraded two miles to a military prison near the Greek Army Corps Headquarters where they will await their fate.

The procedure recently has been to execute all guerrillas found armed, and most of this group were armed. Corps officials said the Army killed 140 other guerrillas who took part in the shelling. — United Press.

THE WHISKERS CLUB



The runaway Easter egg had at last come to rest just where it was wanted—in Tondstool Hollow. Its arrival had scared Daddy Rabbit, but he soon pulled himself together. "What-ever's this?" he asked, tapping the egg with his stick. "Why, fancy seeing you

back again," he exclaimed as Whisk ran up. "Before I tell you all about our surprise," said Whisk, who had now been joined by Toddlers, Mr. Owl and Snow the Crow. "I want to call a meeting of the Whiskers Club." "Splendid," agreed Daddy Rabbit.

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All Is Not Well In Shanghai

Shanghai, Feb. 13.

The first indication that all is not well with the local department store industry—originally introduced here some 30 years ago by some overseas Chinese—came to-day with the announcement that one "fairly large" establishment has submitted a petition to the Municipal Social Affairs Bureau for permission to discharge 50 per cent. of its employees on the ground of business depression.

The management of the store is reported to have stated that it was impossible to carry on normal operations with the present heavy overhead expenditure which they must either reduce or close down altogether.

The official response is being awaited with close interest by both capital and labour interests of the city as a positive answer will establish a precedent for other department stores—all of which are also known to be hard pressed financially—to begin retrenchment and swell the city's unemployed.

It is conservatively estimated that department store employees in Shanghai run well into six figures. Meanwhile, the workers of the store which has petitioned for permission to retrench are said to have proposed to the management that they be allowed "rent space" in the store and carry on business on their own. — Reuter.

forces and may be enlisted in the provincial units. — Associated Press.

Impasse In Tokyo Political Crisis

Tokyo, Feb. 13.

Efforts to select a new Prime Minister for Japan at the conference of the chief secretaries of the four major political parties reached an impasse yesterday as the Liberal insistence on the formation of a Cabinet under the leadership of their head, Mr. Shigeru Yoshida, was opposed by the other three parties.

Although the conference will continue today, political observers doubt whether any agreement will be reached. Mr. Yoshida remains opposed to a coalition Government.

Meanwhile, the Ryokufukai (largest group in the Upper House), approved a resolution calling for the establishment of a Liberal headed National Coalition Government.

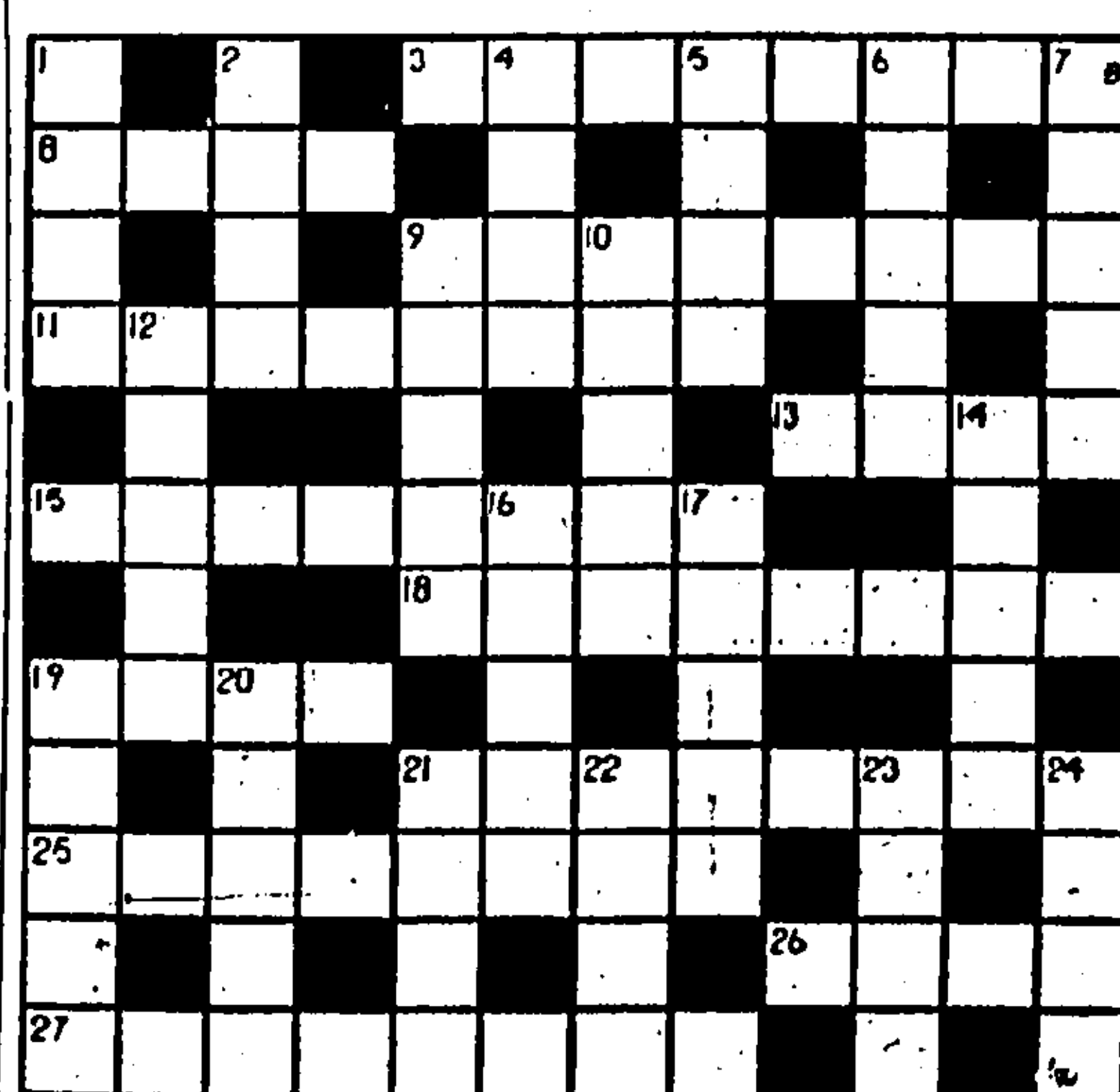
Although this might meet with the approval of the Liberal

members, it will not be accepted by Mr. Yoshida.

The outgoing Prime Minister, Mr. Katayama, told the press that he preferred a coalition regime "even if it is destined to be short lived."

When told of press reports which predicted the formation of a second Katayama Cabinet, he said he had given no thought to the suggestion which he described as "a thing of the future." — Reuter.

A BRITISH CROSS WORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

- 3 Introduce.
- 8 Heavy.
- 9 Dangerous.
- 11 Solaced.
- 13 Whirlpool.
- 15 Liberal.
- 18 Placed.
- 19 Part of the leg.
- 21 Legislators.
- 23 Gate.
- 26 Funeral.
- 27 Hanger-on.

Clues Down

- 1 Smart.
- 2 Scheme.
- 4 Stagger.
- 5 Parched.
- 6 Litter.
- 7 Attempt.
- 9 Rains heavily.
- 10 Reject.
- 12 Musical work.
- 14 Dismal.
- 15 Lubricated.
- 16 Sweet stuff.
- 19 Brittle.
- 20 Subsequently.
- 21 Snappy mixture.
- 22 Following.
- 23 Leave out.
- 24 Slave.

Yesterday's Crossword

- Across—1 Random, 4 Doped, 7 Marinet, 8 Evident, 9 Turret, 11 Obdurate, 13 Compare, 15 Scared, 18 Humid, 19 Elongate, 20 Egret, 21 Stewed.
- Down—1 Romily, 2 Deter, 3

Peninsula & Oriental

STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"CANTON"	U.K. via Straits	16th Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	U.K. via Straits	20th Feb.
"DILWARA"	U.K. via Straits	23rd Mar.
"TRESILLIAN"	U.K. via Straits	10th Mar.
"TREVAYLOR"	Shanghai	11th Mar.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
"CANTON"	U.K. via Straits, Colombo and Bombay	23rd Feb.
"TREVAYLOR"	Shanghai	3rd Mar.
"DILWARA"	Kura	7th Mar.
"TRESILLIAN"	Shanghai	14th Mar.
"TREVAYLOR"	U.K. and Continent via Straits	18th Mar.



British

India

STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"CASTLEDORE"	Bombay via Straits	17th Feb.
"CASTLEDORE"	Japan	14th Mar.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
"CASTLEDORE"	Kobe via Shanghai	19th Feb.
"CASTLEDORE"	Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay	15th Mar.

APCAR LINE

ARRIVALS

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"SANGOLA"	Calcutta via Strait	7th Mar.

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
"SANGOLA"	Calcutta via Straits, Rangoon & Madras	20th Mar.

Eastern

Australian



STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED

ARRIVALS

SHIPS	from	Due
"NELLORE"	Australia	18th Feb.
"NANKIN"		Early April

SAILINGS

SHIP	TO	SAILING
"NELLORE"	Shanghai	24th Feb.

For full particulars apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.
Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

WATERMAN STEAMSHIP CORPORATION

MOBILE, ALA., U.S.A.

Expected arrivals from U.S. Atlantic Ports:—

S.S. "PONCE DE LEON" about 23rd February
S.S. "LASALLE" early March

LOADING FOR U.S. ATLANTIC PORTS VIA SUEZ

S.S. "PONCE DE LEON" on the 24TH FEBRUARY

LOADING FOR U.S. ATLANTIC PORTS VIA PANAMA

S.S. "LA SALLE" EARLY MARCH

For freight and further particulars apply:—

WALLEM & COMPANY

Agents.

Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Bldg.
Chinese Freight Agents:
HIN FAT & CO., LTD.
Tel: 25533, 28823 & 23483.

SAILING DIRECT FOR BANGKOK

S.S. "EMPIRE PARK"

LOADING 14th FEBRUARY, 1948

SAILING 15th FEBRUARY, 1948

For freight particulars apply to:

JEBSHUN SHIPPING CO.

68 Bonham Strand West Tel. 28804



JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN SERVICE

"TITJALENGKA" Due from Singapore, Batavia, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar, 15th Feb.

"TJISADANI" Due from Batavia, Semarang, Surabaya & Macassar, 15th Feb.

ASIA-AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE

TUGELBERG Due from Manila, Singapore, Batavia, Mauritius, Lourenco Marques, Beira, Durban, East London, Port Elizabeth, Mosselbay, Capetown, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, Santos, Rio de Janeiro, 15th Feb.

Transshipment cargo on through bill of lading accepted for Dar-Ex-Salam, Mombasa & Zanzibar.

RUYS In Port South Africa, 10th March.

SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

"HENRICH JESSEN" Due from Belawan, Deli, Singapore, Penang, 1st March.

"VAN HEUTZ" Due from Belawan, Deli, Singapore, Penang, 1st March.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Due from In port Loading for

"MOLEKKEK" Due from In port Loading for

"MEERKREK" Due from In port Loading for

Agents: SILVER LINE LTD.

Due from In port Loading for

"HENDONHALL" Due from In port Loading for

KING'S BUILDING, CONNAUGHT ROAD

TEL: SHIPPING DEPT. 28016

PASSAGE DEPT. 28017

Chinese Agents, No. 82 Connaught Road, C. TEL. 25133.

DE LA RAMA LINES

EXPRESS CARGO LINER SERVICES

TO AND FROM PACIFIC & ATLANTIC COASTS

U.S.A. LOADING DATES

ARRIVALS

From Date Vessel

SAILINGS

To Date Vessel

BOOKING AGENTS FOR P.A.L.

THE DE LA RAMA STEAMSHIP CO., INC.

(Incorporated in the Philippines)

MARINA HOUSE CHINESE SHIPPING OFFICE

Tels. 23676-22675 Tels. 23738-20153

CHINA MERCHANTS S.N. CO.

15 Connaught Road West. Telephone 31633.

SAILINGS

S.S. HAI TIEN Shanghai Feb. 14th

S.S. HAI SI Singapore Feb. 15th

Cargo for Teling, Hankow & Tientsin acceptable

on through bills of lading

FOR FULL PARTICULARS PLEASE APPLY TO THE ABOVE

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

CHINA DOLLAR'S FUTURE

Chang Chun Proposal Gets Mixed Reception

London Stock Exchange

London, Feb. 12.

The London stock markets were today entirely dominated by caution and uncertainty with operators anxiously awaiting the outcome of today's parliamentary debate on the wage and profit question.

The overall volume of business was extremely small and the neglect, coupled with the uncertainty made for some occasional easiness.

Among industrial shares, Dunlop at 70 1/2, Marks and Spencer at 70 1/2 and Woodhouse at 83 1/2 were six pence lower.

An earlier scattered firmness among oil issues was eliminated by some selling which brought about a decidedly easier tendency with Anglo-Iranian losing an initial gain of 1 1/2 to close unchanged at 8 1/2.

Shell new issues losing 6 1/2 at 40 1/2. Rather more attention was given to the Argentine rail section with some demand for preference stock which recorded small gains, tramway issues remained quietly firm throughout.

Kaffirs again proved to be the only bright spot with persistent selective demand.

Gilt-edged were quietly firm.

Closing quotations—

SECURITIES: British Consols, 2 1/2, 1961, 106 1/2; Conversion Loan, 1961, 106 1/2; Floating Loan, 1961, 106 1/2; War Loan, 1961, 106 1/2; Victory Bonds, 1961, 106 1/2.

INDUSTRIALS: Portland Cement, 62 1/2; British American Tobacco, 62 1/2; British Cotton, 62 1/2; J. & P. Coats, 62 1/2; Courtauld, 62 1/2; Dunlop, 70 1/2; Food & Drug, 62 1/2; Imperial Chemicals, 62 1/2; Imperial Tobacco, 62 1/2; Lever Brothers, 62 1/2; Marks & Spencer, 62 1/2; P. & O., 62 1/2; Standard Motors, 62 1/2; Vickers Ltd., 62 1/2.

RUBBER SHARES: Anglo-Indo, 16 1/2; Guthrie & Guthrie, 16 1/2; Rubber Plantation Investment, 22 1/2.

MINES: Borneo Corp., 6 1/2; Crown Mines, 16 1/2; Nanyang Mines, 16 1/2; Rand Mines, 16 1/2; Spring Mines, 16 1/2; Sub-Nickel, 16 1/2; Tarry & Co., 16 1/2; Union Corporation, 23 1/2.

OIL SHARES: Anglo-Iranian, 8 1/2; A.P.C., 8 1/2; B.P., 8 1/2; Shell, 8 1/2; Standard Oil, 8 1/2; Union Carbide, 8 1/2.

GOVERNMENT: National War Bonds, 101 1/2; Savings Bonds, 101 1/2; National War Bonds, 101 1/2; Savings Bonds, 101 1/2.

BANKS: Chartered Bank, 11 1/2; Hong Kong & Shanghai, 11 1/2; Mercantile Bank, 21.

MINING SHARES: Consolidated Goldfields, 3 1/2; Consolidated Tin, 4 1/2; Indian Copper, 4 1/2; New Union Goldfields, 4 1/2; West Rand Investment, 4 1/2; Free State Development, 13 1/2; Anglo-American, 4 1/2; Anglo-Siam, 4 1/2; Anglo-Siam, 4 1/2; Anglo-Siam, 4 1/2.

Argo-American Corporation, 16 1/2; British Burma, 4 1/2; British Burma, 4 1/2.

ARGENTINE RUMOUR

Buenos Aires, Feb. 12.

Unconfirmed reports state that the Argentine Central Bank has conceded several permits to private concerns to sell United States dollars in the free market.

This development is believed to be responsible for the decline in today's sellers' quotation on the Stock Exchange of the dollar to 401.00 from 404.50 pesos—Reuter.

Notice To Consignees

M.S. "PRIAM"

Damaged cargo ex the above vessel will be surveyed at Hoi's Wharf between the hours 10 a.m. and 12 noon on 16th & 17th February, 1948 and consignees' representatives are requested to be present during the survey.

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 9th Feb. 1948.

Pacific Far East Line, Inc.

Fast Regular Trans-Pacific Service

DIRECT SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES

OVERLAND NEW YORK-CHICAGO-DETROIT-TORONTO, MONTREAL AND ALL AMERICAN & CANADIAN CITIES.

VESEL

Arrives From Sails For

S.S. "PHILIPPINE BEAR" Feb. 12 Los Angeles San Francisco

S.S. "LUXEMBOURG VICTORY" Feb. 13 San Francisco

S.S. "SEA SERPENT" Feb. 15 Los Angeles San Francisco

S.S. "CHINA BEAR" Feb. 23 Los Angeles San Francisco

REFRIGERATION * DRY CARGO * CARGO OIL TANKS

For full particulars call General Agents, UNITED STATES LINES CO., Queen's Bldg. Tel. 31261.

Gone Beyond Redemption?

Washington, Feb. 13.

Premier Chang Chun's proposal that the U.S. grant a loan to stabilize China's currency has brought varied reaction among governmental, administrative and legislative officials.

Financial experts, declining to be quoted by name, believe that the Chinese dollar is beyond redemption. With such vast amounts of printing press currency outstanding, they said, "no loan within American capacity would restore the currency's home value."

Others felt that if Chinese currency could be placed upon a hard money basis, meaning silver, it could be redeemed. However, it is estimated that it would take half a billion ounces of silver to accomplish that purpose, and it is doubtful if such an amount of metal is available.

The United States possesses only about 100,000,000 free or unpledged ounces of silver, and that is wholly inadequate.

Secretary of State Marshall's press conference statement on Wednesday concerning the Administration's China aid programme, specifying US\$570,000,000 for economic assistance, heightened speculation that it may contain provisions for the stabilization of the Chinese money.

However, details of the proposed plan continued to be a secret under a strict policy of silence by all agencies concerned.—Associated Press.

SILVER & GOLD MARKETS

London—Silver, spot, fine ounce 45; Forward 44 1/4.

Bar Gold, per fine ounce 172 1/2.

New York—Market closed.

Bombay—Market closed.

Buenos Aires—Sovereign, 69.50 buyers, 70.50 sellers; U.S. Eagles, 127.00, 129.00; Gold, Bar, Gramme, 6.60, 6.85.

Bangkok—Gold, Bar, per halfweight of 15.244 Grammes 501.50; 510.00; Exchange Rate (Selling).

Rangoon—New York T.T. 19.10; London 60.00; Hongkong 3.62.

Alexandria—Gold, per "dirhem" 178 piastres; Egyptian pound 530; Sovereign 610; Turkey pound 390; Nepoleon 385; Dollars (Piece de cinq) 530; Silver (Piastre) per Kilogram 840.

One "dirhem" equals to 1/10th of an ounce.

Paris—Napoleon 1,875 francs; Swiss franc 3,600; Sovereign 4,975; U.S. Eagle (\$10.00) 9,500; Sovereign (in free dollars per ounce) 56.92; Napoleons, 67.7. (Unofficial calculations)—Reuter.

Notice To Consignees

Consignees per Canada Asiatic Lines Ltd.

S.S. "GULFSIDE"

are hereby notified that their cargo is being discharged into the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co's godown where it will be at the wharf's risk and subject to the wharf's terms and conditions of storage, and where delivery may be obtained.

Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on 17th February.

To comply with the General Banded Warehouse Regulations consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 18th February, 1948 will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 28th February, 1948, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

DODWELL & CO., LTD., Agents.

Hongkong, 11th Feb. 1948.

Hong Kong Stock Exchange

On Monday (10th) the market was buoyant, prices firm and a large business was reported. Yesterday (12th) on resuming after the Chinese New Year holidays similar conditions prevailed, and the demand for scrip suggested quotations would move to higher levels. Today, however, selling has set in and prices have become irregular and close below the highest.

The tone is easy and undecided.

H.K. GOVT. LOANS

4 1/2% Loan 102 1/2

4 1/2% Loan 100

H.K. & S. Bank 20 1/2

(Lm. Reg.) X.D. 214 1/2

Chartered Bank 211 1/2

Mercantile Bk. A. & B. 42 1/2

Bank of East Asia 130

INSURANCES

Canton Ins. 400

Union Ins. 700

China Underwriters 84 1/2

H.K. Fire Ins. 110

SHIPPING

Douglas 250

H.K. & S. Steamship 15

Indo China (P&O) 100

Indo China (D&G) 300

Shells (Harter) 100

U. Waterboats (OIL) 500

U. Waterboats (New) 400

DOCKERS, WHARVES, GODOWNS, ETC.

H.K. & S. Wharves (OIL) 100

(New) (P. Rd) 100

H.K. Docks 34 1/2, 34 1/2, 34 1/2

China Dockyard 25 1/2, 25 1/2, 25 1/2

Shai Dockyard 25 1/2

MINING

British Mines 60

H.K. Mines 60

LANDS, HOLES & BLDGS.

H. & S. Hotels 24 1/2, 24 1/2, 24 1/2

H.K. Lands (Old) 80, 80, 80

H.K. Lands (New) 80, 80, 80

Shai Lands 5 1/2, 5 1/2, 5 1/2

Hongkong Estates 21 1/2, 21 1/2, 21 1/2

H.K. Realities 100

Chinese Estates 180

PUBLIC UTILITIES

H.K. Tramways 25, 25, 25

Prak Trams (OIL) 17 1/2

Prak Trams (New) 50

Star Ferries 18 1/2, 18 1/2, 18 1/2

Yamnat Ferries 43 1/2, 43 1/2, 43 1/2

C. Lights (Old) 23 1/2, 23 1/2, 23 1/2

C. Lights (New) 18, 18, 18

H.K. Electric (Old) 57 1/2, 57 1/2, 57 1/2

H.K. Electric (New) 50, 50, 50

Macau Electric 21

Shanghai Electric 100

Telephones (Old) 44, 44, 44

Telephones (New) 42

Shanghai Gas 6 1/2

INDUSTRIALS

Cald. Mac. (Ord.) 20

Canton Iron 70

Cementa (Old) 37 1/2, 37 1/2, 37 1/2

Cementa (New) 35 1/2

H.K. Ropes 24, 24, 24

STORES & C.

Dairy Farms (X. Rd) 6 1/2, 6 1/2, 6 1/2

Dairy Farms (H.K.) 4 1/2

Watsons (ex. All) 52, 52, 52

Watsons (H.K.) 30, 30, 30

Lane, Crawford 5 1/2

Sincere 9 1/2

China Emporium 13

Sun Co. Ltd. 5 1/2

Kwong Sang Hong 200

Wing On (H.K.) 18 1/2, 18 1/2, 18 1/2

Wm. Powell, Ltd. 12 1/2

CHINESE ENTERTAINMENTS

China Entertainments 8 1/2

H.K. Constructions (Old) 7 1/2

H.K. Constructions (New) 6 1/2

Vibro Piling 11 1/2

Marsden Investments 13 1/2

Marsden, (H.K.) 1 1/2

COTTONS

Consignees are warned that claims for damage or shortage may not be accepted if the damage is not surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas in the presence of Consignees' Representatives at this appointed time.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers, Indo China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.

Notice To Consignees

S.S. "TAKSANG"

From CALCUTTA & STRAITS

Arrived: 10th February, 1948.

Damaged cargo ex this vessel will be surveyed in the premises of the Hong Kong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co. Ltd. between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday, 16th February, 1948. Consignees are advised to have their Representatives present during the Survey.

Consignees are warned that claims for damage or shortage may not be accepted if the damage is not surveyed by Messrs. Goddard & Douglas in the presence of Consignees' Representatives at this appointed time.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD., General Managers, Indo China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd.

PRESIDENT LINER SAILINGS

REFRIGERATION—SPECIAL CARGO OIL TANKS—CARGOCAIRE—SPECIE

TO SAN FRANCISCO

SS "General Meigs" (via Shanghai, Yokohama & Honolulu) Feb. 14

SS "General Gordon" (via Manila & Honolulu) Mar. 8

SS "President Cleveland" (via Manila & Honolulu) Mar. 12

SS "General Meigs" (via Manila) April 3

TO SAN FRANCISCO AND LOS ANGELES

SS "President Grant" (via Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama) Feb. 22

S.S. "President Taft" (via Shanghai) Feb. 25

S.S. "President Pierce" (via Yokohama) Mar. 10

SS "President McKinley" (via Shanghai) Mar. 24

TO NEW YORK AND HAVANA VIA MANILA, SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, COCHIN, BOMBAY, SUEZ AND MEDITERRANEAN PORTS

SS "Mount Davis" Feb. 16

SS "Mount Rogers" Feb. 22

SS "Furman Victory" Mar. 6

SS "Marino Leopard" Mar. 8

AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES, LTD.

St. George's Bldg. Tel. Nos. 28172/28175

Arrivals from New York, Boston, Other Atlantic Ports via Panama

S.S. "AMERICAN MERCHANT" Due Feb. 26

S.S. "COURSER" Mar. 8

Sailings to Manila

S.S. "AMERICAN MERCHANT" Feb. 27

S.S. "COURSER" Mar. 9

Sailings to New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore & Other Atlantic Ports via Panama Canal

—Special Cargo Oil Tanks—

S.S. "GOLDEN WEST" Due Feb. 15 Sails Feb. 17

For Full Particulars Call

UNITED STATES LINES

General Agents

Queen's Building, Tel. 81261 (3 lines)

The SWEDISH EAST ASIATIC Co., Ltd.

OUTWARDS

M.V. "NAGARA" In port

M.V. "TAMARA" Mid Mar.

M.V. "BATAAN" Early April

HOMEWARDS TO EUROPE

M.V. "NAGARA" Loading H.K. 23rd Feb.

M.V. "TONGHAI" 6th Mar.

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m.s. "STIRLINGVILLE" DUE 17th FEB.

m.s. "BOUGAINVILLE" DUE 27th FEB.

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HOO FOOK PING

THE BANK LINE (China) Ltd. King's Building, Tel. 27792

MOW SANG SHIPPING COMPANY.

3 Connaught Road, West. Tel. No. 31506

HONGKONG & MACAO LINE

S.S. "KWONG SAI" H.K. Departure 5.00 P.M. MACAO Departure 10.00 A.M.

Subject to alteration without notice.

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MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

SAILING TO SHANGHAI

S.S. "ANDRE LEBON" on/or about 21/2/48

Sailing to MARSEILLES, via Saigon and Ports

S.S. "ANDRE LEBON" on/or about 2nd March

For Passage and Freight apply to

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

Queen's Building. Tel. 20651 (three Lines).

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE

1, CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL
Telephones: 30331-8 Private Exchange.

Agents: CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO

"KWEIYANG"	Swatow, Saigon & Bangkok	15th Feb.
"HUNAN"	Foochow, Shanghai & Tientsin	15th Feb.
"NEWCHWANG"	Singapore & Penang	16th Feb.
"ANHUI"	Amoy, Swatow, Saigon & Penang	17th Feb.
"TSINAN"	Swatow	17th Feb.
"SINKIANG"	Luchow, Fusan	17th Feb.
"SHENGKING"	Shanghai	18th Feb.
"HUPEI"	Singapore, Macassar, Sourabaya, Semarang, Cheribon, Batavia, Banka	18th Feb.
"SZECHUEN"	Amoy, Foochow & Tientsin	28th Feb.

* Sails from Custodian Wharf

ARRIVALS FROM

"TSINAN"	Swatow	15th Feb.
"SHENGKING"	Shanghai	17th Feb.
"NANCHANG"	Singapore	18th Feb.
"HUPEI"	Tientsin, Foochow	21st Feb.
"SZECHUEN"	Shanghai, Keelung	22nd Feb.
"SZECHUEN"	Bangkok, Saigon & Swatow	24th Feb.

CANTON RIVER LINE

"FATSHAN"	Sails	0.01 a.m. 15th Feb.
"WUSUEI"	Arrives	7.00 a.m. 17th Feb.
	Arrives	2.00 p.m. 14th Feb.
	Sails	1.00 p.m. 16th Feb.

Agents: BLUE FUNNEL LINE

U.K. SERVICE

Arrivals from

"DEVONSHIRE"	U.K.	p.m. 17th Feb.
"TITAN"	U.K. via Straits and Manila	End Feb
"MEMNON"	U.K. via Straits	4th week Feb.

Sailings to

"ELPENOR"	Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, Liverpool and Glasgow via Port Said	1st week March
"TITAN"	Liverpool via Port Said	3rd week March.

NEW YORK SERVICE

Arrivals from

"AJAX"	U.S.A. via Manila and Shanghai	3rd week March
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Agents: Australian Oriental Line, Ltd.

Arrivals from

"SHANSI"	Australia via Manila	23rd Feb.
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Sailings to

"SHANSI"	Sydney & Melbourne	29th Feb.
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* Accepts cargo to N. Z. and Fiji Islands ports through B/L

All The Above Subject To Alteration Without Notice.

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GENERAL Agents for AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AIRWAYS

BOOKING Agents for: B.O.A.C., C.N.A.C., P.A.A., P.A.L., P.O.A.S. and NORTH WEST AIR LINES.

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MAERSK LINE

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Moller Steamship Company Inc. New York
General Agents.MONTHLY SAILING TO NEW YORK,
ATLANTIC PORTS, SAN FRANCISCO,
LOS ANGELES AND PANAMA

M.S. "GERTRUDE MAERSK"	In Port
M.S. "MARCHEN MAERSK"	Feb. 24
M.S. "TREN MAERSK"	Mar. 15
M.S. "GRETE MAERSK"	Apr. 22

Special Tanks available for the carriage of oil in bulk

ARRIVALS FROM NEW YORK AND U.S. PORTS

ACCEPTING CARGO FOR MANILA

M.S. "TREN MAERSK"	Feb. 18
M.S. "LEISE MAERSK"	Feb. 22
M.S. "GRETE MAERSK"	Mar. 25
M.S. "SALLY MAERSK"	Mar. 30

For Freight and Further Particulars please apply to:-

JEBSEN & CO. Fodder Building
Tel. Nos. 20001-3

AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS

Arrivals From:

Feb. 15, BOAC (Capt. Wil-

Hamis), 2 p.m.

Feb. 15, Singapore

Feb. 14, BOAC (Capt. Bur-

man), 4 p.m.

Feb. 16, BOAC (Capt. Horn), 4

p.m.

Feb. 14, Philippine Airlines,

12 a.m.

Feb. 17, Cathay Pacific, 12.30

p.m.

Feb. 17, Philippine Airlines,

10 a.m.

Shanghai

Daily, CNAC, 10.45 a.m.

Feb. 15, H.K. Airways, 3 p.m.

Singapore via Bangkok

Feb. 15, Cathay Pacific, 2 p.m.

Feb. 18, Cathay Pacific, 2 p.m.

Canton

H.K. Airways, thrice daily:

10.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m. & 5.30 p.m.

San Francisco

(Via Honolulu, Wake, Guam,

Manila)

Feb. 14, Pan-American, 12.45

p.m.

Feb. 18, Pan-American, 12.45

p.m.

San Francisco

Via Honolulu, Wake, Guam,

Manila

Feb. 19, Pan-American, 4.45

p.m.

Feb. 26, Pan-American, 4.45

p.m.

Saigon

Feb. 13, Air France, 2 p.m.

Brussels

Departures To:

Feb. 14, BOAC (Capt. Briggs),

3 a.m.

Singapore

Feb. 16, BOAC (Capt. Kyle),

7.30 a.m.

Singapore via Bangkok

Feb. 16, Cathay Pacific, 7 a.m.

Manila

Feb. 14, Philippine Air Lines,

1 p.m.

Feb. 16, Cathay Pacific, 2.30

p.m.

Feb. 18, Philippine Airlines, 1

p.m.

Feb. 19, Cathay Pacific, 2.30

p.m.

Shanghai

Daily, CNAC, 11.45 a.m.

Feb. 14, H.K. Airways, 10 a.m.

Feb. 17, H.K. Airways, 10 a.m.

Feb. 17, Philippine Airlines, 11

a.m.

Feb. 19, H.K. Airways, 10 a.m.

Canton

H.K. Airways, thrice daily:

3.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m. & 3.30 p.m.

San Francisco

(Via Honolulu, Guam, Wake &

Manila)

Feb. 16, Pan-American, 8 a.m.

Feb. 19, Pan-American, 8 a.m.

San Francisco

(Via Shanghai, Okinawa, Guam, Wake & Honolulu)

Feb. 20, Pan-American, 10

a.m.

Saigon

Feb. 14, Air France, 7.30 p.m.

Brussels

POST OFFICE MAIL NOTICE

Outward Mails

Books, newspapers, registered articles and parcels post close 30 minutes before the ordinary mail. If mail has to be sent by air, registered articles and parcels will close at 5.00 p.m. on previous day.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14

Closing Times by Air

Airmail for Shanghai, (Reg.) 9 a.m.

(Ord.) 9.30 a.m.

Airmail for Manila, P.I., Honolulu, U.S.A. and Canada, (Reg.) 9.30 a.m.

(Ord.) 10 a.m.

Airmail for Shanghai, Nanking, Nanking, Tientsin and Peking, (Reg.) 8 p.m.

(Ord.) 8.30 p.m.

Airmail for Swatow: Airmail for Tientsin and Amoy: Airmail for Kuning and Cebu, (Reg.) 3 p.m., (Ord.) 3.30 p.m.

Closing Times by Sea and Train

Canton, 7 a.m.

Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi, 8 a.m.

Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi, 2 p.m.

Canton, 2 p.m.

Shanghai, 3 p.m.

Manila, Cebu and Marseilles, 3 p.m.

Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi, 4 p.m.

U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America via San Francisco (No parcels for Canada), (Reg. & Ret.) 4.30 p.m.

(Ord.) 5 p.m.

Canton, 5 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 15

Closing Times by Air

Airmail for Bangkok, Singapore, Batavia, Colombo, Sydney and Auckland, (Reg.) 5 a.m., 14/2, (Ord.) 10 a.m., 16/2.

Airmail for Canton, Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin and Peking: Airmail for Canton, Luchow and Kowloon, (Reg.) 5 a.m., (Ord.) 5.30 p.m.

Airmail for Hongkong: Airmail for Swatow, (Reg.) 5 p.m., (Ord.) 5.30 p.m.

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Canton, 2 p.m.

Shanghai, 3 p.m.

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(Ord.) 5 p.m.

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Airmail for Manila, (Reg.) 11 a.m.

(Ord.) 11.30 a.m.

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Closing Times by Sea and Train

Canton, 7 a.m.

Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi, 8 a.m.

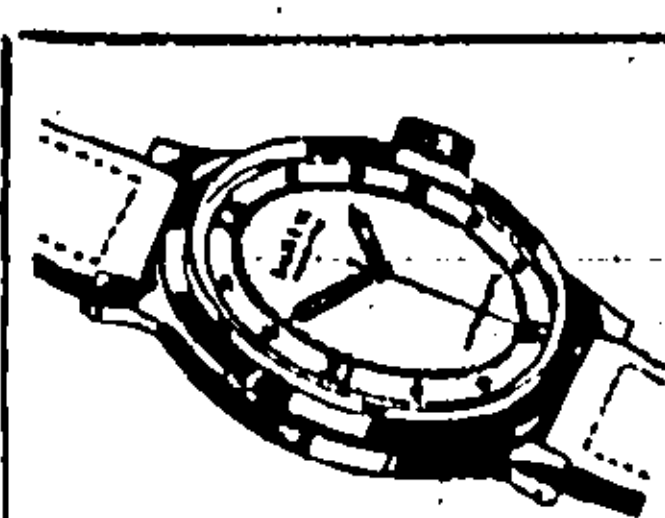
Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi, 2 p.m.

Canton, 2 p.m.

Shanghai, 3 p.m.

Manila, Cebu and Marseilles, 3 p.m.

Macao, Tientsin and Shekhi, 4 p.m.



BUREN

THE PERFECT
SWISS WATCH

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SOFTBALL PENNANT FEVER

Champion Leading At Davos

DAVOS, Feb. 12. HANS GERSCHWILER OF SWITZERLAND, LEADING THE FIELD OF 14 COMPETITORS IN THE WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE END OF THE COMPULSORY FIGURES WITH A TOTAL OF 1,193 POINTS.

Richard Botton of the United States, European and Olympic champion, is second with 1,145.4 points, followed by Ede Kiraly of Hungary with 1,130.7 points.

He is followed by an Austrian, E. Rada, with 1,114.4 points, J. Lettenberger of the United States with 1,095.3 points and the British champion, Graham Sharp, with 1,075.3 points.

The judges did not announce their placements, reserving them for the final computation of school figures and free skating together.

There was a keen battle from the start, between Gerschwiler, Botton and Kiraly, which was intense throughout all six figures. But the Swiss after a slow beginning was the most consistent and was either first or second in the last five figures doing particularly well in the last two, which were the most vital ones.

Rada, who had been above Kiraly in the Olympic event, was not his equal today.

Four of today's six figures which were drawn by lot were the same as those skated in the Olympics.

After a lovely cold bright morning the weather became cloudy and warm in the afternoon making the ice soft.

Reuter.

West Indies In Sound Position

Port of Spain, Feb. 12. Despite the fact that injuries forced England to field seven bowlers in the side they could not separate the opening West Indies batsmen on the second day of the second Test match here today, and at the close of play the West Indies had made 160 without any loss in reply to England's first innings total of 362.

Garrow had by then reached 101 while A.G. Gaunt made 72.

Earlier in the day S.C. Griffith, head of England's batting yesterday, carried his unfinished 110 to 140, while Jim Laker in a fine display made the second highest score of the innings with 55.

W. Ferguson, stocky leg spinner, was the best West Indies bowler with five wickets for 137.—Reuter.

ENGLISH WOMEN WIN

London, Feb. 12. English women table tennis players retained the Europe Cup with a devastating 5-0 victory over Czechoslovakia in the challenge round.

Last week England retained the Corbillion Cup.—Associated Press.

British Approach For Conference

Paris, Feb. 12. The British and French Governments are now sounding the other 14 nations on a proposal of holding a new Marshall Plan conference.

This was discussed between the American State Department and the British and French Ambassadors in Washington a few days ago, when the three Governments agreed in principle on the desirability of another conference.

Canadians Clash With Madcaps

(By "Grandstand")
The Canadians have always been a threat to pennant-chasers, and as recent as last year, they dashed all flag hopes for the Saints with an upset defeat which left the path clear for the now defunct Giants.

Bill Woods' Canadian attack caught up with the pennant fever which has gripped diamond fans for the last few weeks, as they tangle with the Merry Madcaps tomorrow at 11.15 a.m. The outfields are knotted for second place with three defeats and a full game behind the league leading Saints. Another loss for either side would be "certain."

The performances of the Maple Leaguers have not been too consistent—they have emerged victors with lopsided scores and on several occasions they have only just managed to squeeze through with a victory over much weaker outfields in the late stages of the game. No one has yet been able to put the finger on any weaknesses, yet there must be something wrong somewhere.

On paper, the aggregation of stars built around the brilliant Bill Woods should make them the main pennant contenders, and the only logical explanation we can find is their lackadaisical dominance. Since Herbie Quon has been inactive, Kassa Nazarin has taken over mound duties. Nazarin holds the record for the least five passes to first and is one of the steady hurlers to grace the local diamonds and only went down to the Karling Rovers by the slimmest of margins after fifteen goodling innings. Herbie Quon who is back in harness again behind the platter is giving Nazarin all the support he needs and in addition has a wicked peg to second which intending base-peddlers had better beware.

Stumping around the initial station in his size eleven is "Home" Bunker, while the keystone corner will be Don Robinson. In the absence of Cramer, Kelly Silva-Sano will use the rubber and unless Kelly can beat down on those pitches, his team-mates will not like the music ringing off the Maple Leaf base. Catcher Sabu Samy, however, will be able to assist him a lot, as Sabu has been around the circuit long enough to know the weaknesses of the opposition—if they have any.

First-sacker Romeo Hamet is no Cramer Uncertain.

Eddie Marquies' Merry Madcappers will be severely handicapped for it is uncertain whether Dale Cramer, mound artist who pitched the Madcappers into a look-in at the pennant, will be able to take over pitching duties, owing to his knee injury in the crucial game with the Saints.

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State Papers To Come Out

London, Feb. 12. Documents on Anglo-German relations before the last war will be included in a joint publication of German State papers to be issued this year by Britain, the United States and France, a Foreign Office spokesman announced today.

The spokesman declined to comment on extracts of the documents quoted last night by the official Soviet news agency as evidence of Britain's alleged "secret deal" with Germany "to satisfy Hitler's insatiable appetite."

All these documents would be found in the joint publication, he said. They would be published fully and not in mere extracts of reported conversations of Lord Halifax, then Foreign Secretary, and Sir Neville Henderson, the British Ambassador in Berlin, of the type just issued from Moscow.

A cross check on the authenticity of these conversations would shortly be possible when the relevant volumes of British Foreign Office documents, covering the same period, would be ready for issue.

The joint publication, the spokesman said, would be in three volumes.—Reuter.

Golf At Fanling

9.44 K.S. Robertson—N.A. Brown. 9.48 A. Mahb—E.P. Streetfield. 9.52 J. Linaker—H.J.D. Lowe. 9.56 D.L. Prophet—R.W.A. Mackintosh.

10.00 S.S. Gordon—M.B. Tighe. 10.04 J. Forbes—L. Jackson.

The following are requested to represent the Royal Hong Kong Golf Club versus the American members on Sunday, Feb. 22, in the match for the American Cup—

SINGLES
J.A.D. Morrison v. W.M. Simmons
D.S. Ruhl v. F. Wallace
E.T. McMullen v. F. Harris
M.B. Tighe v. R. Farrell
J. Goldman v. P.M. Cotton
L.D. Prophet v. M.D. Cooper
J. Linaker v. J.W. Clague
W.S. Hay v. C.D. Culbertson
M.A. Cairns v. W.M. Portridge
K.F. Kie v. C.E. Brookhart
K.F. Noble v. F.F. Booth
L.D. Pringle v. R. Walton
F. Verd v. W. Harper
D. Black v. R.P. Newell
F.G. Harrison v. R.A. Crawford
L.M.S. Lloyd v. M.C. Elliot
A. Mahb v. R.L. Simard

FOUR BALLS
Morrison—Cairns v. Portridge—Simmons; Ruhl—McMullen v. Wallace—Farrell; Tighe—Goldman v. Culbertson; Cooper—Hay—Wallace—Clague—E.C. Anderson; R.P. Craig—Kie v. Simard—Brookhart; Pringle—Verd v. Harper—Walton; Noble—Black v. Newell—Booth; Lloyd—Harrison v. Crawford—Elliot.

MORE FOR CYPRUS
Nicosia, Cyprus, Feb. 12. Six hundred and 70 Jewish illegal immigrants, whose ship, named the Yarushalam Habezura, was intercepted off the Palestine coast yesterday by the Royal Navy, arrived at Famagusta on board the British transport ship Ocean Vigour today.

They disembarked peacefully and were taken to the camp at Carnot.—Reuter.

K.C.C. TENNIS TOURNAMENT

An American Mixed Doubles Tennis Tournament will be played at the Kowloon Cricket Club tomorrow beginning at 2 p.m. Members and their guests are invited to participate. Entries will be accepted up to 2 p.m. tomorrow.

SOCCER MATCH CANCELLED

The Second Division "B" League match between 23rd R.A. and R.A.M.C. originally scheduled for tomorrow has been cancelled.

MILLS-BUENO FIGHT

London, Feb. 12. Pacho Bueno, Spain's boxer who is meeting Freddie Mills, British lightweight champion, for the European title on February 17 had the first official workout in a London gymnasium today.

It appears to know all the defensive moves and may trouble Mills in this respect.—Reuter.

SHANGHAI'S LAST GAME

The Shanghai Interport football team play their last game this afternoon, when they meet a Combined Non-Chinese XI, on the Club Ground at Happy Valley, at 3.30 p.m.

The Hong Kong team will be: Leck, Gosano, Fjeldstad, Anderson, Forrow, Parvin, Xavier, Cunningham, Sewell, Kiernan and Omar.

Father Of The Atom Off To America

London, Feb. 12. Secretary of the Department of Atomic Energy, Lord Cherwell, who arrived here three days ago from Denmark.

Only a few friends, including Sir John Anderson, former Chairman of the British Advisory Committee on Atomic Energy, and Lord Cherwell, who is Professor F. A. Lindemann, was wartime scientific adviser to the former Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, knew the professor's whereabouts as he prepared to continue his trip to the United States.

Professor Bohr, who escaped from Denmark in 1943 and went to the United States to play a leading role in the research which produced the atom bomb.

While in London, Professor Bohr met Mr. Ebbie Munk, former leader of the Danish underground movement, who organised his escape from Denmark. M. Munk is at present Press Counsellor at the Danish Embassy here.—Reuter.

Turkish Aircraft Shot Down

Ankara, Feb. 12. The two Turkish Spitfires shot down over Bulgarian territory on Monday near the Black Sea coast town of Sozopol, 35 miles north of the Turkish frontier, had test their way in a snowstorm, Turkish air experts said here tonight.

Earlier, a Bulgarian official statement had said that the planes were shot down "in perfect weather" after failing to heed warning rockets sent up as they circled Sozopol.—Reuter.

CERDAN'S FIGHT IN U.S.

New York, Feb. 12. The Twentieth Century Sporting Club have agreed to give Marcel Cerdan, French middleweight champion, a Friday date at Madison Square Garden in May if he loses to Lavern Roach next month, and an out-door fight with Ray Robinson, world welterweight champion, if he beats Roach.

Cerdan secured these promises, it was announced here, after the Roach stable had refused a return bout if Cerdan lost to Roach. It was understood that the promise of another date by the Twentieth Century was the condition on which Cerdan signed for the Roach fight on March 12.—Reuter.

YORKS OFFER TO LESTER

London, Feb. 12. The Yorkshire County Cricket Club have offered Edward Lester, 25-years-old Scarborough batsman, a full-time appointment subject to the sanction of the Ministry of Labour.

If it is received he will resign his clerical post with the Scarborough Corporation. An award of a County Cap to Lester will be dependent on the result of his displays in early season matches assuming that he can vacate his clerical position.—Reuter.

REPORT ON JAVA

Lake Success, Feb. 12. The United Nations three-man good offices committee to present to the Security Council its interim report of the negotiations which led to a truce agreement in Indonesia.

The committee emphasised in its report that acceptance by the parties of these 12 principles "can in no way change or modify the status of the parties, particularly in relation to the Security Council."—Reuter.

MAID FOR TURKEY

Ankara, Feb. 12. Half of the \$125,000,000 additional aid for Turkey, recently decided upon by the United States, will be spent on reinforcing the Turkish Air Force with modern materials, a well-informed source said here today.—Reuter.

ROTARY CLUB MEETING

The Rotary Club of Hongkong will hold a closed meeting for members only on Tuesday, 17th February. The meeting will take place in the Roof Garden of the Hongkong Hotel at 12.30 p.m.

DANISH PLANE CRASH

Airliner Caught In Trees

Frankfurt, Feb. 12. Seven passengers and the crew of four were killed out of a total of 21 on board when a Danish airliner crashed after being caught in trees, about 22 miles from Frankfurt, today.

There are 10 injured survivors, but seven of them are "walking" casualties. Three of the survivors are women.

Eye-witness reports of the crash reaching the nearest German police station at Lauterbach said the plane, which was flying too low over the hilly Oberwald in poor visibility, had been caught in the trees before making its crash landing.

The plane, which belonged to the Danish Air Lines, was on the Copenhagen - Frankfurt Zurich route.

The survivors were taken to the German hospital at Lauterbach, were then taken by ambulance to an American Army hospital in Glesien.

One of the three injured women survivors described how she had seen her husband die in the flames that consumed the plane when it crashed, an ambulance driver said.

American and German police were tonight still continuing their rescue work at the scene of the crash.

A police sergeant of the German police post at Ulrichstein said he saw the plane flying low over the village.

"I then heard the explosion which followed the crash," he said. "Forest workers found the wreckage. When I came on the scene soon afterwards, the back part had broken off and had fallen burning to the ground."

"Probably the survivors are all the people who were seated in the back part of the plane."

The Hall was extensively damaged. Valuable paintings and antiques were lost and the heat was so intense that firemen had no chance of saving furniture or clothes.

Mrs. Findlay drove in her night-dresses one mile to the police to give the alarm and Colonel Findlay helped the staff to fight the fire.

Naseby Hall has 31 rooms and had been used as a shooting box by the King and Queen.

Firemen managed to save two wings and the servants' quarters, but the main building was destroyed.

One fireman was taken to hospital with a suspected fractured collar bone when part of the roof fell on him.—Reuter.

Submarine Alarm

Oslo, Feb. 12. The Norwegian Admiralty said today that it could not confirm a report that a submarine of unknown nationality had been sighted in northern Norwegian waters.

People in a Norwegian flying boat said that they saw a submarine on Monday just north of Bodoe and south of the Lofoten Islands. It "submerged as the plane passed over and only the periscope could be seen," they said.

Today the Admiralty said it was thought likely that a stake marking a nearby sandbank might have been mistaken for a periscope. The shallow water there also meant that a submarine could not dive.—Reuter.

Occupation Force To Be Cut

London, Feb. 12. Britain will shortly begin a gradual reduction of her occupation forces in Japan, it was officially announced here today.

The United States, Australian and New Zealand Governments have agreed to the reduction.

According to a War Office spokesman, the British force, which now numbers about 3,000, will be cut down until there are only a few dozen administrators left.

The United States has 80,000 men in Japan, Australia has 11,000 and New Zealand 3,000. An announcement issued by the Admiralty, War Office and Air Ministry states:

"The United Kingdom Government has requested further considerable reduction in the size of the United Kingdom contingent of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force in Japan."

Reductions in the size of the forces of occupation have been made possible by the success achieved by the military administration of Japan.

The Commander-in-Chief of BCOF is preparing a programme for these reductions, which would be completed as soon as possible, dependent upon the availability of shipping.—Reuter.

DIAMOND SHOP HOLD-UP

Jerusalem, Feb. 12. Twenty masked men today held up the biggest diamond shop in the centre of Tel-Aviv and escaped with gems valued at US\$80,000.—United Press.

British Soldiers Killed

Jerusalem, Feb. 12. Two British soldiers were killed today in a clash with "small groups" of invading Syrian Arabs in Northern Palestine.

According to first reports, the Syrians numbered not more than 50 strong.

Six Jews were seriously wounded when Arab gunmen fired on a Jewish bus in Haifa today, it was officially reported.

In the Hadera district of Northern Palestine today, one Jew was killed and another seriously wounded by Arabs.

Five Arabs were burned to death and five others injured when Jews blew up a bus carrying 14 passengers with an electrically detonated mine today near Safad, Northern Palestine, it was officially reported.—Reuter.

Nehru's Appeal For Peace

Allahabad, Feb. 12. Free India today stood "humiliated abroad and bruised in her own soil," Pandit Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, said here today at a meeting after the immersion of the Mahatma's ashes, referring to the wave of violence which had swept the country after her attainment of independence.

"Maybe in the past our hands have been too weak to deal effectively with the poison of communal hatred and violence," he said, "but after parting with the last remains of our Father on the banks of this sacred river today, who is there among us who will not pledge himself to put an end of violence and communalism?"

The scenes along the route of the procession and at the water-side were a cross section of all India. A few veiled Moslem women were among the vast crowds and there were many Sadihs, or holy men, with long beards and bodies powdered with ash and splashes of symbolic paint on their foreheads.

As the 17-foot high flower-banked platform passed along the tree-lined avenue, thousands cheered both hands in front of them in salute.

A 79-gun salute boomed out as the copper urn containing the ashes slid into the water and the Last Post was sounded.—Reuter.

Flying Wing Glider Crashes

Alton, Hampshire, Feb. 12. The pilot was killed instantly when an experimental tailless Flying Wing glider crashed in a field near here today, shortly after casting off from its towing plane.

The other occupant, an observer, escaped safely by parachute.

The glider turned upside down and plunged to the ground like a stone after it was released from the Lancaster aircraft which was towing it, an eye-witness stated.—Reuter.